

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMARKS OF JACK ROSEN, CHAIRMAN OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS/COUNCIL FOR WORLD JEWRY, HONORING PAKISTANI PRESIDENT PERVEZ MUSHARRAF

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, just a few days ago, it was my great honor and pleasure to join my dear friend, Jack Rosen, the Chairman of the American Jewish Congress and the Council for World Jewry at a dinner in New York City honoring President Pervez Musharraf of Pakistan. The President gave an outstanding speech reflecting his standing as the quintessential Muslim leader who has fostered moderation, reason, and pluralism.

Mr. Speaker, this remarkable event would not have taken place without the extraordinary leadership of Jack Rosen. He met President Musharraf some time ago when he was conducting business in Pakistan. At that meeting the seeds were planted that eventually blossomed into the event in New York a few days ago.

This event honoring the Pakistani President is only the latest example of Jack Rosen's visionary leadership and indefatigable commitment to public service. In the short time that he has served as Chairman of the American Jewish Congress, he has made an important difference in broadening and deepening the work of this important Jewish organization.

Mr. Speaker, at the event in New York last week, Jack introduced President Musharraf to the audience at the dinner in his honor. Jack's comments were particularly insightful on U.S.-Pakistani relations and the worldwide struggle against terrorism.

My colleagues in the Congress should have the opportunity to read the excellent remarks he made. I ask that his address be placed in the RECORD, Mr. Speaker, and I urge my colleagues to give it thoughtful attention.

INTRODUCTION OF PRESIDENT PERVEZ MUSHARRAF OF PAKISTAN

Mr. Jack Rosen, Chairman American Jewish Congress/Council for World Jewry

This is an unprecedented evening, and we are delighted to welcome not only our keynote speaker, but more than 60 Pakistani-American leaders who have joined us. We demonstrate tonight, by example, something that happens every day in hundreds of communities across the United States—Muslims, Jews and Christians sharing a meal, talking about our desires and dreams and even our differences.

President Pervez Musharraf's presence here tonight is the culmination of two years of preparation. In the summer of 2003, President Musharraf surprised many people in his own country and across the Muslim world when he offered a new set of ideas—first in Washington, then at the United Nations, at the Islamic Summit in Malaysia, and finally in Pakistan. He told his most important au-

dience, his own community, that the extremist path to which some Muslims had turned to would bring nothing but misery and degradation.

He said of the scourge of terror: "The unfortunate reality is that both the perpetrators of these crimes and most of the people who suffer from them are Muslims." Then he offered a vision of an alternative, which he called "Enlightened Moderation." He proposed a new Islamic society based on pluralism, openness, and tolerance, in order to reach what he called "socioeconomic uplift—to drag ourselves out of the pit we find ourselves in, to raise ourselves up by individual achievement and collective socio-economic emancipation."

Just a few months prior to giving that speech, President Musharraf broke new ground when he suggested that Pakistan might need to rethink its refusal to establish diplomatic relations with Israel, although official diplomatic ties could come only after an Israeli-Palestinian peace deal.

These remarks came as the Moslem world was being rent by extremist pressures, amidst cascading violence in the Middle East and dangerously mounting anti-Semitism. Difficult to say at any time, President Musharraf's words were all the more courageous coming at the moment they did.

The extremists in his own country and beyond were quick to recognize the threat to them expressed in his message of hope. Within months, terrorists in Pakistan made two major attempts on his life, and they very nearly succeeded. We must ask ourselves: What if the terrorists had succeeded? What if the vitally important country of Pakistan, with its huge Muslim population, its nuclear arms, its many extremist factions and its critical location in the region known as the arc of crisis, had tumbled into chaos, or gone the way of Iran?

When you think about this, you can see why the terrorists believed it so important to silence him.

President Pervez Musharraf's decision to be with us tonight is an act of individual courage, leadership and vision.

Our process that brings him here also began two years ago, resulting from informal talks we held with Pakistani officials and members of the Pakistani-American community. This led to an invitation to visit Pakistan and meet with President Musharraf. In May, I made a quiet trip to Islamabad with the Vice Chairman of our Council on World Jewry, Mr. Phil Baum, and with our very fine Director, David Twersky. Because we were aware of politically sensitive issues involved, we first consulted with senior officials in Washington and Jerusalem.

Several weeks ago, I spoke with President Bush about this initiative in Crawford. President Bush said he saw this as an important opportunity and understood the significance of this step by President Musharraf. President Bush was enthusiastic about the opportunity.

Since its inception, the American Jewish Congress-Council for World Jewry, working with Jewish communities around the world, has sought to build bridges to the Muslim world by pursuing contacts with authoritative, moderate Muslim political and religious figures in America and around the world.

We approach this mission with sobriety and a hard headedness about the Jewish

cause, with a realism about current conflicts and impending threats. But we are also driven by the compelling and urgent necessity to reach out and engage leading individuals in the Muslim world who, by meeting us at least halfway, can accelerate the process by which the Muslim world finds its way into a healthy and productive relationship with contemporary life.

Our dialogue with Muslims starts with an understanding that true moderation begins with tolerance among peoples. Christians, Muslims, and Jews come from a shared common heritage, and we are three branches of one tradition and one set of core values.

We recognize the vital role that mass media and education—in both public school systems as well as madrasas—plays in teaching and advocating values of moderation, tolerance and understanding. We need to ensure that tolerance is more accurately reflected in Muslim media and education systems, including in Pakistan.

This must be the last generation educated to be hateful of Jews. Demonization of the Jewish people is a scourge that offends people of all racial and religious backgrounds. It is troubling that anti-Semitism has re-emerged in some quarters in Europe just 60 years after the Holocaust. This is sparked by extremism. We all have an obligation to eradicate anti-Semitism from all our societies.

This must be the last generation educated to be hateful of Israel. We reject the Arab boycott against Israel and we support every effort of diplomacy and dialogue in the quest for peace and security.

This must be the last generation educated to believe it is acceptable to denigrate people of other cultures and religions. For our part, Jews must work to prevent Islam from being attacked with impunity. Unfortunately, many Muslims believe attacks against Islam are fomented by us. There exists a conspiracy-theory mindset among many Muslims that seeks to blame the Jews for the ills of the Muslim world. Jewish leaders must be more active and visible to prevent attacks against Islam, and Muslims leaders, in turn, must help dispel unfounded conspiracy theories.

And, finally, this must be the last generation educated to believe that terrorism is a legitimate means to achieve political ends. Acts of terror have no place in civilized societies and terrorists can never be honored as freedom fighters or martyrs.

President Musharraf, you are an important voice in the Muslim world. You can carry this message to places and people that I, that we, cannot.

President Musharraf's appearance with us tonight is a symbolic act of his determination to take the struggle forward. But it is not an isolated one. Following positive reaction in Pakistan to the announcement of this meeting, he initiated other important steps toward Israel.

Two weeks ago, on September 1, his Foreign Minister, Khurshid Kasuri, met openly with Israeli Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom.

Pakistan is taking a stand, supporting the struggle of the Palestinian people to have a state of their own, but at the same time, affirming such a state will exist alongside of—and not seek to replace—the Jewish state of Israel. It has said it will now "engage" Israel, a step forward from Pakistan's previous policy. President Musharraf recently

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

praised Prime Minister Sharon as "courageous" for unilaterally disengaging from Gaza. For its part, Israel has agreed to loosen trade restrictions for imports of Pakistani products. On Wednesday, President Musharraf shook hands with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon—something that would have been impossible even a year ago.

We are proud to be part of this historic drama. But tonight represents only a beginning of what we hope is a long process of dialogue and engagement. Organizations like ours have a continuing role to play, and we invite all of you here tonight to join with us. We would like to explore with President Musharraf opportunities to bring together Pakistani, American and Israeli citizens in a dialogue about our shared futures through a program of on-going exchanges and visits. The more our people interact with each other, the easier it will be for government leaders to act.

Let me share with you some personal information about our special guest. President Musharraf was born in Delhi in 1943. He spent his early years in Turkey, where his father served in the Pakistani Foreign Ministry. Beginning his military career in 1964, he rose through the ranks as a highly decorated soldier and officer, becoming head of the Armed Forces in 1998. The following year he assumed his country's political leadership. He is married and has a son and a daughter.

He is a critical ally and partner of the United States in fighting terrorism. Under his leadership, Pakistan's economy is growing, it is reducing friction with its Indian neighbor, and his country is increasing its presence on the international stage.

I must tell you many people expressed doubt that tonight would happen. The gap is too wide; the differences are too stark, they said. I am reminded of a famous passage from literature that describes the wide chasm which separates western and eastern cultures:

"Oh East is East and West is West and ne'er the twain shall meet."

So it stands, engraved in conventional wisdom, as if decreed by heaven. But its author, Rudyard Kipling, who wrote as an Englishman in the Indian subcontinent—the land that includes modern day Pakistan—did not accept this insight as destiny. Instead, his poem continues:

"But there is neither East nor West,
Border nor breed nor birth,
When two strong men stand face to face
Tho' they come from the ends of the earth."

These elegant words remind us that leadership and character are indispensable to the progress of Man. Mr. President, we thank you for being here with us tonight, and we look forward to hearing your thoughts on how the cause of Enlightened Moderation will be carried forward.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is my very great honor to introduce to you the President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Honorable Pervez Musharraf.

CONGRATULATING NORTH RICHLAND HILLS SCHOOL NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize North Richland Hills School for being named a No Child Left Behind Blue Rib-

bon School of 2005. Only 31 schools in Texas will receive this award certificate.

The No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Schools program recognizes schools that make significant progress in closing the achievement gap or whose students achieve at very high levels. Schools must make adequate yearly progress in reading, language arts and mathematics.

The No Child Left Behind Act is the bipartisan landmark education reform law designed to change the culture of America's schools by closing the achievement gap, offering more flexibility to States, giving parents more information and options and teaching students based on what works. Under the law's strong accountability provisions, States must describe how they will close the achievement gap and make sure all students, including those with disabilities, achieve academically.

I extend my sincere congratulations to North Richland Hills School for receiving this award. This school's contribution and services should serve as inspiration to us all.

HONORING JOSEPH GENCO UPON HIS RECEIPT OF THE JOSEPH H. MASON AWARD

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary community service of Joseph Genco, a resident of Chautauqua County, City of Jamestown, upon receiving the Joseph H. Mason Award.

The award is given annually to a union member who demonstrates strong volunteer service to the community, and is selected by a committee of past winners. Mr. Genco was presented with this honor at the annual United Way Salute to Labor Dinner.

Joseph Genco, who is a Jamestown Police Department sergeant, has been the president of the Jamestown Kendall Club PBA since 2000, and a past secretary of the Chautauqua County Police Organization and Western New York Police Association. Genco also serves on the Board of Directors of Joint Neighborhood Project and was former secretary of PALMA, the Police and Latino Mediation Advisory committee.

Mr. Genco has donated countless hours towards improving his community. He is hard working, and dedicated. His leadership and generosity sets an example for us all. That is why, Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor him today.

THE BURLINGTON LITERARY FESTIVAL HONORS KATHERINE PATERSON

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, Burlington, Vermont, as I know from my years as Mayor, is one of America's most livable cities. One of the primary reasons for its preeminence and livability is the vibrant arts scene in Vermont's largest city and in the surrounding region. Be-

it music, dance, theater or film, Burlington is and has been alive with creativity. The same is true for writing of all sorts, so we celebrate a notable moment when much of this writing was showcased at the first Burlington Literary Festival. I extend my congratulations on the inaugural Burlington Literary Festival, to its sponsors Burlington City Arts, Burlington Magazine and the Fletcher Free Library, to festival organizer Susan Weiss, and to the many, many writers who participated.

In particular, I want to highlight that the Festival was dedicated to Katherine Paterson of Barre, Vermont. She is, with all due apologies to Grace Paley and the extraordinary writers who attended the conference, the most honored of all contemporary Vermont authors, with not one but two National Book Awards, not one but two Newberry Medals—and the Hans Christian Anderson Medal as well!

When she writes for children, she takes their intellectual, ethical and political capacities with high seriousness. Social issues, international dimensions, and, if I am correct, a revisiting of the Bread and Roses strike in her next book: this is not escapist literature, but instead writing which draws its young readers into the world they live in, even as they encounter the remarkable characters and circumstances that enliven the domain of fiction.

But Katherine Paterson knows that life asks more of us than writing, important as writing surely is. She established the "Read to Live" program to bring books, story-telling and other activities to Venezuelan communities which had been damaged and devastated by massive flooding. That program was so successful in giving children a sense of community and hope that it has been a model for programs in Indonesia for children left homeless by the tsunami, and is serving as a template for programs that will help the children of New Orleans and other cities destroyed by Hurricane Katrina.

We are proud to have Katherine Paterson living and working among us in Vermont, creating with the many other writers in attendance at the Burlington Literary Festival the imaginative fabric of American life. We wish her, and all, the very best as they continue to create in words both the America that is, and the America that can be.

SUPPORTING GOLD STAR MOTHERS DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, as our Nation honors Gold Star Mothers, I rise today to honor a Gold Star mother from Colorado. Everyone knows that teachers have a heart for kids. Marian Lutters from Burlington, Colorado, devoted much of her life to elementary students.

Before he left for Iraq, Mrs. Lutters' students were privileged to have her son Derrick come to her second grade classroom. He explained that he was going to Iraq as a soldier. He explained what the conflict was all about and what he wanted to accomplish. The young students were attentive and some of them later wrote letters to Derrick while he was in Iraq.

Sadly, Derrick Lutters lost his life in battle on May 1, 2005, during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Derrick's death was a tragedy for his family and the entire community. Small towns are like that—they are like family and very close knit. Derrick's friends and former co-workers were devastated by the loss.

Marian Lutters expressed how proud the entire family was of her son, "He said he wanted to protect people and help establish a better way of life, especially for children." Her words aptly honor her son's ultimate sacrifice.

Mrs. Lutters is supported by the entire community, and it is my desire that she also feels the continued respect, admiration, and heartfelt sympathy from the Members of Congress and Americans across the country.

COMMEMORATING SEA OTTER AWARENESS WEEK

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to Sea Otter Awareness Week, sponsored by Defenders of Wildlife. The support given by Defenders, Friends of the Sea Otter, the Otter Project, and the Ocean Conservancy to recover the Southern Sea Otter has raised public awareness and helped protect this important species under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act.

The study of southern sea otter populations provides much-needed information on ways to improve the health of coastal ecosystems. We already know sea otters play a critical role in maintaining healthy kelp beds along the California coast, an important habitat and nursery ground for some of the depleted West Coast rockfish stocks. Sea otter research has proven to be an effective method of monitoring toxins and diseases in the marine environment, both of which can affect the health of humans and other wildlife. These charismatic animals also bring significant tourism spending to central Californian coastal communities.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting to hold Sea Otter Awareness Week this week as Congress moves to reauthorize arguably the bedrock of environmental laws, the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The dramatic turnaround realized by the once thought extinct southern sea otter is a result of two critical protection laws—the ESA and the Marine Mammal Protection Act, the southern sea otter population grew from less than 100 otters in the 1930's to the present total of 2,800. Scientists maintain that it will take 3,100 otters to make a population stable enough to even consider removing them from the Endangered Species list. Unfortunately, threats from disease, exposure to environmental pollutants, and entrapment in fisheries gear are threatening the species' continued recovery. As reauthorization of the ESA moves forward this week in the House, I will fight to keep it strong enough to successfully overcome these threats to the Southern Sea Otter.

Many constituents in my District have an interest in, and are affected by, sea otter management. I introduced H.R. 2323, the Southern Sea Otter Recovery and Research Act, and work with my colleagues to secure fund-

ing in an effort to support the recovery of the population. The nonprofit environmental groups work with the Monterey Bay Aquarium, researchers, fishermen, and state and Federal agencies to recover the Southern Sea Otter, obtain increased research funds, and remove threats to this keystone species.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the many accomplishments of the non-profit environmental organizations and other agencies and people who devote a tremendous effort to protect and recover the Southern Sea Otter. This week I join the people of my and other districts honoring Sea Otters and those people working to save them and restore their populations.

RECOGNIZING NICOLE CALAMUNCI FOR HER OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary academic achievements of Nicole Calamunci, a resident of Chautauqua County, city of Jamestown, upon receiving the United States Academy Achievement Award.

Nicole was named a United States National Award winner in English. Fewer than 10 percent of all High School Students across America are given this prestigious honor. Nicole was nominated for this award by her Middle School English teacher.

Along with her academic achievements Nicole demonstrates a variety of other outstanding characteristics. She possesses leadership skills, an interest in multiple subjects, and a strong motivation to improve and learn new things. Nicole is also very enthusiastic, responsible, and has an excellent attitude.

Nicole is the daughter of John and Gioconda Calamunci of Jamestown, and attends Persell Middle School.

Ms. Calamunci is an exemplary and dedicated student, with much to offer. That is why Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor this young lady.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 100TH BIRTHDAYS OF LEOPOLDO CAS- TRO CASTRO AND LUCIA CONTRERAS PEREZ

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th birthday celebration of Leopoldo Castro Castro and Lucia Contreras Perez, parents of Jesus V. Castro, a former resident of my Congressional District and an exchange student from Peru at Shaker Heights High School from 1965–1966.

Leopoldo Castro was born in Orcotuna, Peru, a small village in the Andes Mountains, on November 15, 1905. Although his parents were farmers without any formal education, Leopoldo managed to finish grade school, and with only that level of education, became a distinguished resident of Orcotuna. Leopoldo wanted to become a lawyer, but his family

could not afford his college education, nor were there any colleges in the region. But those hurdles did not hold him back. Leopoldo saved enough money to purchase a law book and taught himself the Peruvian legal code.

At age 20, he was appointed Justice of the Peace of the District of Orcotuna by the State Supreme Court, a position he held for over 50 years. His fair and thoughtful decisions as Justice of the Peace gained him the respect of his entire village.

Achieving what Leopoldo could not for lack of means, his son, Jesus V. Castro, and his grandson, Jorge E. Castro, attended college and law school and became attorneys. Jorge currently serves as Tax and Trade Counsel in my Washington, DC office.

Leopoldo's wife of over 70 years, Lucia Contreras Perez, also of Orcotuna, will turn 100 years of age March 2, 2006. They live happily in Lima, Peru with their children and grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, next week their hometown of Orcotuna will honor the lives of Lucia and Leopoldo during the annual Saint Francis of Assisi traditional festivities. I wish Lucia and Leopoldo Godspeed as they celebrate their 100th birthday.

A SMALL BUT IMPORTANT STORY FROM VERMONT

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I wish to tell you a story, and in so doing commend a wonderful grassroots project in northern Vermont. It is a small story and a simple one, but it says volumes about the generosity and support of the people of Vermont, and the care that the citizens of our nation as a whole extend to those who are bravely serving in our military forces.

Sharon Waterhouse, of Richford, Vermont decided to sew a Christmas stocking for her son, Josh, who is serving in Iraq with other members of the Vermont National Guard, and stuff it with small Christmas gifts. It immediately occurred to her that she could sew stockings for his whole unit, all 32 of his fellow Vermont National Guard members.

But Ms. Waterhouse didn't stop there. Since she loves to sew, she set a course to make 500 stockings, asking her aunt, Andrea Bowden, to help get donations to stuff them. Michelle Long of the Guard Family Readiness Group pitched in to arrange the shipping. The Richford Legion and CF's Diner chipped in by setting out donation jars to help buy supplies. And others have volunteered to help sew, including students from Enosburg High School, along with their teachers Jessica Leo and Kaye Mehaffey.

Sharon Waterhouse herself is sewing between 300 and 400 stockings, and with the help of other generous hands, she hopes to provide stockings for the entire Vermont Guard contingent—over 1400 soldiers—serving in Iraq.

There are moments when our brave men and women in uniform, facing daily dangers in Iraq which we can scarcely imagine, need to know that their nation understands the sacrifices they are willing to make on the Nation's

behalf. What Sharon Waterhouse and the many others working along with her have done is give those soldiers a clear sign that we in America greatly appreciate their dedication and courage.

IN HONOR OF ELLEN MOIR

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ellen Moir for receiving the prestigious Harold W. McGraw Jr. Prize in education.

Ms. Moir is the founder and executive director of the New Teacher Center (NTC) at the University of California, Santa Cruz. The NTC is a unique place where educators and researchers develop programs for new teachers. Evolving from a staff of 5, NTC has grown into an organization of 65 teachers and researchers who continue to turn Moir's mission into a reality. Ms. Moir has brought academic innovation as well as tireless focus to preparing students and teachers for success and it is certainly fitting that Ms. Moir is nationally recognized for her expertise in teacher preparation, induction, and support.

Thus, I would like to salute Ellen Moir for her outstanding contribution to teacher professional development education. She has dedicated her life to improving the education system in this country and without her motivation and expertise, organizations like the NTC would never have been established. Her accomplishments are invaluable and continue to make a difference in the nation today. Mr. Speaker, I am proud today to honor such a compassionate and innovative individual who resides in the 17th district of California.

SALUTE TO GUARDIANS OF
FREEDOM

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the Guardians of Freedom for their service our great Nation.

Your Guardians of Freedom is a new program that enables unit commanders and Airmen to quickly communicate with people affected by and interested in the mobilization and deployment of military people. Beyond that, it is designed to tell the story of the American Airmen tirelessly fighting the global war on terrorism.

With this program, commanders can contact and request the support of civilian employers, educators, families, members of Congress and local government leaders, and the local media when Guard members, Reservists and active duty troops get called up for Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom operations in this country and overseas.

These Guardians of Freedom are being honored by Northrop Grumman with a special program, dinner and reception.

It is with great honor that I stand here today to salute the Guardians of Freedom for their

help in safeguarding our Nation's freedom. Through their contribution, they not only stand as devoted American citizens, but serve as an inspiration to others.

HONORING ROBERT KOST FOR RECEIVING THE AWARD FOR EMERGENCY COMMUNICATORS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the heroic actions of Robert Kost, resident of Chautauqua County, city of Jamestown, upon his receiving the 2005 Emergency Communicators Award.

Although this award is only 2 years old it is an exclusive award. Kost was nominated for this honor by Livingston County Sheriff Joe Gerace. Gerace felt that Kost deserved this award for the actions that Kost displayed when he received a 911 call reporting that a 95 year old woman was choking. Kost calmly and readily took action and walked the son and daughter in law of the woman through the Heimlich maneuver. The procedure was successful after the son performed it a second time. Kost then continued to stay on the line with the woman's son and daughter in law until the fire department arrived and could provide further care.

Robert Kost is a brave and heroic man who has saved the lives of many people thanks to his devotion and dedication to his career as a professional dispatcher. Because of these commendable actions taken by Robert Kost, I rise to honor him today.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF E.F. BOYD & SON FUNERAL HOMES, INC.

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of E.F. Boyd & Son Funeral Homes, Inc. The Boyd family, which owns 3 funeral homes in the Cleveland area, has been in business since 1905, and is celebrating a century in business.

Elmer F. Boyd, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, originally owned a barber shop but realized the need for a funeral home that catered to African Americans. Boyd then opened the third funeral home in the Cleveland area that served blacks.

In the time before automobiles Boyd would use a city owned streetcar named the Black Maria to carry bodies and families to burial sites. Boyd would also go to the homes of the deceased to embalm or preserve the bodies, and he would sew the lining into the casket himself before manufacturers lined caskets.

In the late 1930s Boyd's son William joined the business, and later his son William II, and daughters Marina and Marcella took on the duties of their father and grandfather.

Since the passing of Elmer Boyd many other members of the family have kept the business running, including his great-grand-

daughter, and oldest daughter of William II, Victoria. Victoria is the only female in the family who has both an embalmer and funeral director's license.

Four generations have made possible the successful continuation and expansion of E.F. Boyd & Son Funeral Homes for 100 years.

On behalf of the people of the 11th Congressional District, I wish to commend E.F. Boyd & Son Funeral Homes, Inc. on their 100th anniversary. Their existence is a true testament to family values and dedication, and the continuing legacy of the American dream.

SUPPORTING GOLD STAR
MOTHERS DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, as our Nation honors Gold Star Mothers, I rise today to honor a Gold Star mother from Colorado. JoAnn Rehn was born and raised in Milbank, South Dakota, on a dairy farm called Schmidt Dairy. She married her husband Charles Rehn about 40 years ago. They had 3 sons. The oldest, Joe, the middle Randall, and Jimmy the youngest.

They moved to Colorado 33 years ago and settled in Longmont, where JoAnn lives today. For many years she has run a small business out of her home. She is a hardworking, industrious woman.

The military heritage comes from a great, great grandfather on the father's side. He was a Swedish General. JoAnn's son Randy joined the military in the mid-80's. Jobs were scarce, he was a gung-ho guy, and there was lots of opportunity in the military.

Sadly, Randy lost his life on April 3, 2003 in battle during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Despite the heartbreak of losing Randy, the family still believes he died for a noble cause. When asked why his mother should be honored, Randy's brother Joe said, "She believed in what he was doing, fighting for our freedom, and despite the loss, she would make the sacrifice again. Our freedom is worth more than dollars. Having Randy gone is a negative for me and our family. But here is the positive part: freedom for America is what it is all about and God bless everyone else that feels the same way."

Randy's brother Joe also thinks it is really hard on his Mom to hear about more soldiers being killed on the news everyday. "You have to continually re-live the loss over and over, and that makes moms and families hurt continually. Hopefully it ends soon and we can all move on," Joe said.

Up to 1,000 people attended Randy's funeral in Longmont, paying the highest respect to him and his loved ones. It is my hope that Randy Rehn's family, especially his dear mother, feels the continued respect, admiration, and heartfelt sympathy from Members of Congress and Americans across this great nation.

DEDICATION CEREMONY FOR C.
DOUGLAS KILLOUGH LEWIS-
VILLE HIGH SCHOOL—NORTH

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate C. Douglas Killough Lewisville High School—North on the dedication ceremony in honor of their new location.

The Lewisville school district has a history of outstanding distinction throughout the State of Texas and continues to pursue educational excellence. As a learning community built on partnership and respect, they prepare each student to become a responsible, productive citizen by providing a wealth of skills, knowledge and experience.

The Lewisville High School—North staff is devoted to creating positive relationships in an atmosphere of safety, discipline and concern. Strong educations, the sense of school pride, an opportunity at a bright future and friendships are just part of what an excellent school provides its students.

With Lewisville—North's commitment to providing a quality education and safe environment, I know they will make the most of the new, top of the line facility. Again, congratulations and enjoy your new location.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF SIMON
WIESENTHAL

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and work of an incredible soldier for justice, the late Simon Wiesenthal.

For over fifty years, Mr. Wiesenthal sought justice for the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust. Over his long career he is credited with bringing more than 1,100 war criminals to trial.

Mr. Wiesenthal had been imprisoned in twelve Nazi death camps, and lost 89 relatives in the Holocaust. His pursuit of war criminals was a personal one, but it was a mission of justice, not vengeance. After the American liberation of the Mauthausen death camp in Austria where Wiesenthal was imprisoned—he weighed just 99 pounds when he was freed—he decided to dedicate himself to seeking justice and ensuring that the Holocaust would never be forgotten.

Many have called him the 'conscience' of the Holocaust. In many respects, though, he was the conscience of the world. When governments would not act on their own, he forced them to act. When others forgot or were anxious to forget the victims of the Holocaust, he kept alive the memories of Nazi atrocities and demanded that those responsible be held accountable for their actions.

Mr. Wiesenthal was born near Lvov in present-day Ukraine. He was educated in Prague and Warsaw, and apprenticed in Russia before returning home to open an architectural office. Shortly thereafter, war broke out. The Russians and Germans invaded Lvov and terror ensued.

After the war, Wiesenthal, based in a small apartment, began his quest for justice. He is best known for his efforts that led to the capture of Adolf Eichmann, the former SS leader who presided over the Nazi's extermination program.

Wiesenthal's career brought him many international awards and distinctions. In 1995, he was made an honorary citizen of Vienna. He was a published writer and maintained office hours at the Jewish Documentation Center he founded, even after turning 90.

Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to, a man of immense courage and dedication. His passing reminds us of the importance of remembering the victims of the Holocaust, demanding that perpetrators of crimes against humanity be held accountable, and combating intolerance wherever it exists.

In these efforts, one man's life truly made a difference.

IN RECOGNITION OF COMMANDER
DEIDRE MCLAY'S SERVICE AND
DEDICATION TO THE UNITED
STATES NAVY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of a great American, Commander Deidre McLay. I honor her today for her service to our nation in the United States Navy.

Commander McLay recently assumed command of the USS *Farragut*, which is the Navy's newest Arleigh Burke class guided-missile destroyer. CDR. McLay is only the sixth woman in naval history to command a destroyer and is the first commanding officer of the USS *Farragut* and its 383 officers and enlisted personnel.

Commander McLay is from Boulder City, Nevada and was commissioned via the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program in 1986. She graduated from the University of Colorado with a B.S. in Civil Engineering. While serving in the United States Navy, she has earned a Masters of Science in Operations Research from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California and a Masters degree in National Security Affairs from the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island.

Commander McLay's most recent operational assignment was as Chief Staff Officer, Destroyer Squadron Thirty-One, where she deployed as part of the Abraham Lincoln Battle Group for Operation Iraqi Freedom. During her earlier tour as Executive Officer in USS *Spruance* DD 963 she was deployed for six months to Standing Naval Force Mediterranean, operating with ships of eight NATO nations.

Commander McLay has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and various service and campaign awards.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and heartfelt gratitude that I salute Commander McLay for her service and dedication to our great nation.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HASSAN
MAKLED ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Mr. Hassan Makled, who after over 30 years of helping ensure our Presidents' safety, is retiring from the Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

Mr. Makled began his service in 1974, as an Airport Police Officer for Detroit Metro Airport. Mr. Makled was promoted to Airport Police Dispatcher in 1980; from this position he developed both policy and procedure for the department. From 1982 to 1986, Mr. Makled served as Operations Supervisor, escorting Presidential limousines on and off the airport grounds and performing the explosive ordnance device checks on the runways for Presidential visits.

From 1986 to 1987 Mr. Makled served as Department Manager II and was promoted to Department Manager V in 1987. He held this position until 1997, during which time he served as the administrative focal point for Presidential visits, assisting in all aspects of their safety and efficiency.

Finally, Mr. Makled served as Deputy Director of Airfield Operations until 2002, when he was promoted to Director. In this position Mr. Makled developed policy and procedures for Airfield Operations. Mr. Makled has had the distinction of helping ensure the safety of six different Presidents; I honor his service as it has been both dignified and meaningful to our country.

Mr. Speaker, I invite all my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Makled on his retirement and wishing him the best in this new chapter of his life.

IN RECOGNITION OF CATHOLICOS
ARAM I PONTIFICAL VISIT TO
CALIFORNIA

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to join my Armenian American constituents in California's 29th Congressional District in welcoming the upcoming Pontifical visit of His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia. His Holiness will be visiting the State of California this October at the invitation of His Eminence, Archbishop Moushegh Mardirossian of the Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America.

His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia, is the spiritual leader for hundreds of thousands of Armenians around the world and one of the most prominent Christian leaders in the Middle East. The Pontiff presently serves as the Moderator for the World Council of Churches (WCC). This prominent ecumenical organization is comprised of more than 340 churches from different cultures and nations around the world representing over 400 million Christians. The Pontiff, who is the first Orthodox and the youngest person to be elevated to this post, is currently serving his second term as Moderator.

The main theme of the Pontiff's visit is "Towards the Light of Knowledge." This theme reflects the Pontiff's deep faith that only with greater education and dialogue can the world's conflicts be properly addressed.

The Catholicos's visit will be marked by a number of major events, including a speech he will deliver on October 14th at the Los Angeles World Affairs Council concerning the challenges to inter-religious dialogue in the Middle East. He will also participate by giving the main address at a symposium to be held at the University of Southern California focusing on "Christian Responses to Violence."

Of special significance to the 29th Congressional District, the Catholicos will be consecrating the Saint Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church in Pasadena and blessing a new headquarters for the Western Prelacy.

I ask all Members to join with me and the Armenian American community throughout the State of California in welcoming the upcoming Pontifical visit of His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia.

CONGRATULATING THE NESTLÉ VERY BEST IN YOUTH AWARD WINNER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the superior academic performance of Micaela Watkins, an award winner in the Nestlé Very Best in Youth program. Twenty four recipients, from 13 different States, were selected from over 600 applicants.

This award recognizes exceptional young people, ages 10–18, who have demonstrated a commitment to reading and academic excellence as well as made tangible contributions to the quality of life for their communities. Winners received \$1,000 from Nestlé USA to donate to a nonprofit organization of their choice and an all-expense paid, 5-day trip to Los Angeles for an awards ceremony held this past July.

Micaela is a 17-year-old honor student from Fort Worth, TX. She is involved in numerous activities at school, and around the community. Her future plans include receiving an undergraduate degree in political science and a law degree. Further down the road, she would like to establish a law firm that provides legal counsel to those who normally couldn't afford it.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Micaela Watkins for receiving this award. This student's contribution and services should serve as inspiration to those who wish to make a positive difference in the lives of others.

RECOGNIZING PATSY D'AMBROSIO

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Mr. Patsy D'Ambrosio of Spring Hill, FL, a Purple Heart recipient from World War II.

Born in Italy, Mr. D'Ambrosio moved to New York when he was 3 years old. Inducted into the Army on December 26, 1942, Mr. D'Ambrosio served during World War II as part of Company A of the 747th Tank Battalion in the European Theater. Following completion of his service, he received an honorable discharge from the Army on May 26, 1945.

As part of the successful D-Day attack on Omaha Beach, Mr. D'Ambrosio was injured storming the French hedgerows, which were heavily defended by German tanks. While attacking the German fortifications, Mr. D'Ambrosio's tank was struck by two 88 mm shells. Severely wounded and suffering from shrapnel wounds and burns over much of his body, Mr. D'Ambrosio was pulled to safety by his assistant tank driver.

Following his retirement as an optician, Mr. D'Ambrosio and his family moved to Florida to retire and to help his son start a family automotive business. Today, Amber Automotive has been operating in Brooksville for 25 years.

Mr. Speaker, true American heroes like Patsy D'Ambrosio should be honored for their service to our Nation and for their commitment and sacrifices in battle. I am honored to present Mr. D'Ambrosio with his long-overdue Purple Heart. He is truly one of America's greatest generation.

THE JUSTICE FOR PEACE OFFICERS ACT OF 2005

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, on April 29, 2002, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy David March was brutally slain execution-style during a routine traffic stop. Suspect Armando Garcia fled to Mexico within hours of Deputy March's death and has eluded prosecution by U.S. authorities.

Tragically, Mexico's refusal to extradite individuals who may face the death penalty or life imprisonment has complicated efforts to bring Armando Garcia back to the U.S. to face prosecution for his crimes. Over the last 3 years, I have fought to see Armando Garcia and other fugitives accused in killings brought back to the U.S. I have met with officials from the Department of Justice and the State Department. I have written repeatedly, joined by other members of Congress, to President Bush and to Secretaries of State Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice, calling for aggressive action to change Mexico's extradition policy. I have even met with high officials of the Mexican government in an effort to impress upon our neighbor the intolerable nature of its extradition policy. However, 3 years later, Armando Garcia and thousands of other fugitives still roam free.

I will continue to work with the administration to bring Deputy March's murderer to justice. I will also continue our fight to persuade Mexico to change its policy. But until that is achieved, I believe that the Congress has a duty to act as well.

It was at the urging of Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca that my friend from Pasadena, Mr. SCHIFF, and I introduced H.R. 2363, the Peace Officer Justice Act, to make it a Federal crime to kill a peace officer and flee

the country to avoid prosecution. This bill ensures that criminals who murder law enforcement officials and escape to another country will have the full weight of the Federal Government on their trail.

Currently under Federal law, it is a crime to kill a Federal peace officer or state/local officers if they are engaged in a Federal investigation. We believe there is no reason that a heinous crime, such as the one in Deputy March's case, should not also be a Federal crime with the same penalties as the murder of a Federal officer.

The punishment for fleeing prosecution under existing law is no more than 5 years or merely a fine. I believe that a fine or 5 years imprisonment for the cold-blooded murder of a law enforcement officer is tantamount to no justice at all. The Peace Officer Justice Act makes such an act punishable by the Federal murder statute, which includes the death penalty or life in prison. This legislation is supported by the Fraternal Order of Police and the National Sheriffs Association.

However, Los Angeles County District Attorney Steve Cooley has decided to strongly oppose the bill citing several concerns with its provisions. Specifically, Mr. Cooley believes that making such a crime a violation of Federal law would provide "exclusive jurisdiction" for the Federal Government to pursue a cop-killer who flees the country. In response, I made clear that this bill provides concurrent jurisdiction for the Federal Government to prosecute; not the authority to supersede jurisdiction of states or localities. Therefore, either the Federal Government or the State/local prosecutor could pursue the case. In fact, if the State has already pursued its own prosecution of such a crime, that would not prohibit the Federal Government from pursuing a subsequent prosecution under this bill. For example, in *United States v. Lanza*, 260 U.S. 377, 382 (1922), the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the conviction in Federal court of a person previously convicted in State court for performing the same act. The Court stated "We have here two sovereigns deriving power from different sources, capable of dealing with the same subject-matter within the same territory. Each government in determining what shall be an offense against its peace and dignity is exercising its own sovereignty, not that of the other." This "dual sovereignty doctrine" has also been used to uphold successive prosecutions by two States for the same conduct. See e.g. *Heath v. Alabama*, 474 U.S. 82 (1985) (permitting a defendant who crossed a State line in the course of a kidnapping/murder to be prosecuted for murder in both States). However, Mr. Cooley strongly disagrees with U.S. Supreme Court precedent.

Mr. Cooley also cites California Penal Code 793, which prohibits the prosecution of any crime that has already been tried in the U.S. or other State. He argues that California would not be able to prosecute cop-killers who flee the country due to the State law and the Federal Government's "exclusive jurisdiction" of such cases.

Mr. Cooley also argues that if Federal prosecutors, using their "exclusive jurisdiction" of such crimes, decide to forego the death penalty or life imprisonment to extradite a suspect back from Mexico to the U.S., that any term of years set by the Federal Government would be less than any term that California prosecutors would seek for punishment. Specifically,

he cites that under California law, second degree murder of a law enforcement officer, without special circumstances, is punishable by minimum of 25 years to life with the possibility of parole, while second degree murder under the Federal murder statute is "any term of years or life." In addition, Mr. Cooley cites that local prosecutors are more experienced at prosecuting murder cases and are better at the job than Federal prosecutors.

Finally, Mr. Cooley cites the "Rule of Speciality" in the U.S.-Mexico Extradition Treaty, which states that individuals extradited from one country to another can only be prosecuted under the charges included in the extradition request. Therefore, he argues that since H.R. 2363 provides "exclusive jurisdiction" to the Federal Government in such cases, that California will be barred from prosecuting a cop-killer who flees the country.

Although I strongly disagree with Mr. Cooley's interpretation of "exclusive jurisdiction," I have reached out to him and local law enforcement officers for suggestions on how to improve the bill. Based on their feedback, I, along with Mr. SCHIFF, am introducing the Justice for Peace Officers Act to build on the provisions of H.R. 2363 by enhancing the punishment for cop-killers and those who aid them, providing priority to State/local prosecutors in such cases, making clear that the bill does not supersede State/local jurisdiction and urging the renegotiation of the U.S.-Mexico Extradition Treaty to resolve the death penalty/life imprisonment roadblock.

The Justice for Peace Officers Act, like the Peace Officer Justice Act, makes it a Federal crime to kill a peace officer and flee the country. And like H.R. 2363, the Justice for Peace Officers Act makes the crime for first degree murder punishable by the death penalty or life imprisonment. The Justice for Peace Officers Act goes a step further by making murder in the second degree punishable by a mandatory minimum of 30 years in prison or life imprisonment. Under the current "federal murder statute" (18 U.S.C. 1111), the punishment for second degree murder is any term of years or life imprisonment. This change ensures that persons guilty of killing a peace officer under second degree murder and fleeing the country will face a significant minimum number of years under lock and key.

The Justice for Peace Officers Act also raises the penalty for those who help cowardly cop-killers flee the country to avoid prosecution. Under the current "accessory after the fact" federal statute (18 U.S.C. 3), the punishment for helping suspects, facing the death penalty or life imprisonment, to avoid capture is a maximum of 15 years in prison. The Justice for Peace Officers Act ensures that such aiders and abettors would serve a mandatory minimum sentence of 15 years behind bars.

Let me be clear that it will always be my preference for State and local prosecutors to go after cop killers—police keep our local communities safe and local prosecutors should have primary jurisdiction over these cases. That is why I included language in the Justice for Peace Officers Act to give priority to State/local prosecutors to pursue a suspect of killing a peace officer and fleeing the country. Specifically, the Attorney General, the Deputy Attorney General, the Associate Attorney General, or an Assistant Attorney General, in consultation with the appropriate State/local prosecutors, must provide formal ap-

proval in writing to pursue such a case. This gives State/local and Federal officials the opportunity to confer on the best course of action, and gives preference to State/local officials since no action can be taken on the Federal level without the additional step of obtaining formal written permission. This language is based on a provision in the current "flight to avoid prosecution" Federal statute (18 U.S.C. 1073). Also, the Justice for Peace Officers Act includes language making clear that nothing in the bill would supersede the authority of State/local prosecutors.

In addition, the penalty under the Justice for Peace Officers Act would be a consecutive sentence to any other State or Federal punishment. Since State/local authorities have first priority to prosecute and sentence such a suspect, the provision would ensure that any punishment on the local/State level would be enhanced by an additional Federal sentence.

Finally, we firmly believe that the Bush Administration should use all tools available to bring about a change in Mexico's policy regarding the extradition of nationals that will allow these brutal killers to face justice in the U.S. That is why we included a provision in the Justice for Peace Officers Act directing the Secretary of State to enter into formal discussions with the Mexican government on the U.S.-Mexico Extradition Treaty. The provision also directs the Secretary of State to urge the Mexican Government to use all available actions to persuade the Mexican Supreme Court to reconsider its October 2001 ruling so that the possibility of life imprisonment will not have an effect on the timely extradition of criminal suspects from Mexico to the U.S.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that the Justice for Peace Officers Act will signal to Mexico and any other country that refuses to extradite a fugitive cop-killer that the Congress of the United States considers this a crime against America and will bring the full resources of the Federal Government to bear to seek justice. I urge all of my colleagues to co-sponsor the Justice for Peace Officers Act.

VALLEJO FIGHTING BACK PARTNERSHIP CELEBRATES FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Fighting Back Partnership of Vallejo, CA, as it celebrates its 15th anniversary.

The relationship between a city and its residents is a vital and interdependent one, deriving its strength from the quantity and quality of civic involvement and public spirit generated by such organizations as Vallejo Fighting Back Partnership.

Concerned citizens and members of the Vallejo City Council expressed alarm at the increasing use of drugs and alcohol during the late 1980's and formed a Red Ribbon Committee to address this problem and to explore programs and services that could potentially result in a meaningful reduction of substance abuse and related crimes and violence. The city of Vallejo successfully applied for a grant

from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to unite the community to comprehensively address substance abuse as one of 15 Fighting Back Partnerships nationwide.

Vallejo Fighting Back Partnership, an independent non-profit coalition, developed a continuum of care approach including education, prevention, treatment, and after-care services. The Partnership, in an effort to adhere to its mission, has organized more than 50 partners and thousands of residents including support from city, county, State and Federal agencies, private non-profits, corporate and foundation donors, who emanate from an array of diverse backgrounds including law enforcement, health care, social services, government, public education, treatment facilities, neighborhood organizations, business, criminal justice, and faith-based groups.

The Partnership began to make noticeable and measurable reductions in substance abuse related crimes, primarily on the strength of renewed funding from the Johnson Foundation in 1995 and a more focused strategic plan that endeavored to create positive outcomes in three key areas:

Neighborhoods, Treatment, and Youth and Families. Local data obtained between 1995 and 2000 validated the successful outcomes of Fighting Back's mission of reducing substance abuse and related mayhem in the community, enabling the Partnership to be chosen as 2001 Outstanding Coalition by the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, CADCA, which was presented to Fighting Back Partnership of Vallejo on December 14, 2001, in Washington, DC.

After 12 years of funding from the Johnson Foundation ended in 2002, totaling over \$6 million, Fighting Back Partnership continues to be a dynamic coalition working to reduce substance abuse through innovative and successful programs thanks to its dedicated staff and board of directors. Today, Fighting Back provides counseling and services to families through its three Family Resource Centers, employs science-based educational programs in cooperation with the Vallejo School District, develops leadership skills in young people through its Youth Partnership, and unites residents to improve deteriorating neighborhoods through its Neighborhood Revitalization Program.

I know I speak for all Members of Congress when I congratulate Fighting Back Partnership for its 15-year commitment to decreasing substance abuse and related crimes thereby improving the quality of life for all Vallejoans, and wish its board of directors, staff, and community partners many more years of success.

INTRODUCING A BI-PARTISAN RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AN ALZHEIMER'S SEMI-POSTAL STAMP

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce a resolution urging the United States Postal Service to act on a pending petition for an Alzheimer's Semi-Postal Stamp. I am joined by Co-chair of the Congressional Alzheimer's Taskforce, Representative CHRISTOPHER SMITH, Democratic Leader NANCY

PELOSI and Representative JOHN BOOZMAN in a bi-partisan effort to raise funds for Alzheimer's research through the issuance of a semi-postal stamp.

The petition of support for the issuance of an Alzheimer's semi-postal has been pending at the United States Post Office for over 4 years. It is long overdue that we honor this petition and allow Alzheimer's the opportunity it deserves to benefit from this public awareness and fundraising campaign.

The race to find a cure for Alzheimer's disease is now more urgent than ever. Four and a half million Americans, including one in 10 people over age 65 and nearly half of those over 85, have Alzheimer's disease. Unless science finds a way to prevent or cure this terrible illness, as the baby boomers continue to age, nearly 16 million Americans will have Alzheimer's disease by the year 2050.

Mr. Speaker, we need to help and give hope to those who are fighting the moment to moment physical, mental and behavioral battles of Alzheimer's every day. We need to help and give hope to the behind the scenes heroes—the family care-givers who selflessly offer their love and care. And we need to help and give hope to the researchers working hard to find a cure. Working together we can do more—and we must. We must do everything we can to ensure that one day Alzheimer's is a disease of the past and issuing a semi-postal stamp can help do just that.

The best way to fight Alzheimer's disease and reduce the number of patients who suffer is to find ways to prevent it before it starts. Investments we make now mean longer, healthier lives for all of us. If we can delay the onset of Alzheimer's disease by even 5 years, it would save this country billions of dollars—and would improve the lives of millions of families. We can act now to strengthen our commitment to prevent Alzheimer's and to finding a cure for this devastating disease.

Semi-postal stamps are special stamps which were authorized by Congress as a tool for the United States Postal Service to not only raise funds but awareness of worthy causes. An Alzheimer's stamp would allow the public to directly contribute to research funds by charging a higher price than normal postage for the stamp and allocating most of the proceeds to research on this insidious and debilitating disease. We simply cannot afford to wait another minute, or another four years until we give Alzheimer's the attention and opportunity it deserves. I hope that the Postal Service will act and help to make a difference in the future by allowing us to contribute to Alzheimer's research through a semi-postal stamp today.

TRIBUTE TO ELMER STOCKER

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that the members of the House of Representatives allow me to bring to their attention the good works of a man who has long been active in the rural electrification program in Indiana and who is now approaching his well-deserved opportunity to retire from the field. While his retirement will leave a large void of

experience, activity and judgment for rural electricians in Indiana, and for his community in Indiana, which will not be easy to replace, today's comments are meant to remind us all of the many people around our nation whose unceasing efforts contribute to the betterment of our quality of life.

Mr. Elmer Stocker, currently the CEO of the Indiana Statewide Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives, Inc., will retire on December 31, 2005. He will end nearly 40 years of service in the electric industry. During that time Mr. Stocker has worked his way up through the ranks from entry-level position to industry leader. He began service with Whitley County REMC in 1966 in the dispatch and work order department of the cooperative. Over the years he also worked in the accounting, member services and marketing departments, developing a hands-on appreciation of all aspects of the electric utility business, and working with customers on their needs and expectations. In 1975 he became Assistant Manager, and in 1976 he began working as executive vice president/general manager of Whitley County REMC. During that time he not only ran the daily operations of his cooperative, but used his talents as a leader to serve as president of the REMC Managers Association in Indiana and as president of the Board of Directors of Wabash Valley Power Association, the generation and transmission cooperative that provides wholesale power to cooperatives throughout central and northern Indiana.

In 1986 Mr. Stocker left Whitley County REMC to work for 11 years at Wabash Valley power, where he was vice president of member and corporate relations and vice president of marketing. During that time he also moved onto the regional stage, serving a term as vice president of the Great Lakes Electric Consumers Association.

In 1997 the board of directors of Indiana Statewide, recognizing Mr. Stocker's knowledge of the program and respect among his peers at a time when the electric industry was facing tumultuous change, asked Mr. Stocker to serve as CEO of the trade group. He took up that leadership role from 1997 until this day.

This impressive record of professional achievement is only a part of Mr. Stocker's role in the American community however. During this time of advancement in his employment, Mr. Stocker also engaged in numerous personal and civic activities that are even better representative of the qualities that are at the foundation of American communities. For example, Mr. Stocker pursued post-secondary education while holding a full time job, and received his bachelor degree from Indiana University in 1975. He served in the Army National Guard from 1964 to 1970.

As a community leader, Mr. Stocker took on the role of Whitley County United Way Drive Chairman. He joined and rose through the ranks of the Masons and Scottish rite. He served as an officer of the Aboite Township Community Association and as president of the Times Comer Little League. He was a long time active member and volunteer in the Columbia City United Methodist Church, and was a member of the board for the Carmel Dad's Club. Among all these roles, he fit in time to join the Indianapolis Airport Rotary Club as well.

As a family man, a community volunteer, and a professional member of the electric util-

ity industry in Indiana, Elmer Stocker has exemplified the best values of American life for many years now. I wanted to share with the members today that this good man will soon enjoy the satisfaction of reaping the rewards of his long service through a well-deserved retirement, in which I am sure he will continue to volunteer good works. Thank you for indulging me in this time today, and especially thank you to Elmer Stocker for all he has given to our proud State of Indiana.

TRIBUTE TO THE REVEREND JAMES WILLIAM BESSERT

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Reverend James William Bessert as he celebrates the 25th anniversary of his ordination as a Roman Catholic priest.

As many do, I know him simply as Father Jim. I am proud to call him a friend and join with so many others in offering our congratulations to Father Jim, a servant of God who has truly dedicated himself to walking the path of Christ.

In his 25 years as a priest, Father Jim has shared the Good News and his gift of music since his first ordained assignment as associate pastor of St. Maria Goretti Parish in Bay City to his present calling as pastor at St. Brigid of Kildare Parish in Midland, Michigan. I am especially privileged as a graduate of St. Brigid School and native son of the parish to acknowledge Father Jim's positive impact on the church and the school communities.

At a time when some parishes and schools face the heart-wrenching challenge of decreased membership and enrollment, St. Brigid is experiencing a rebirth on both accounts. The pews are filled with families and the sanctuary resounds with worshipful song. Since he arrived at St. Brigid in 1999, Father Jim's vision and example have proven a reason for this blessing in downtown Midland. With a shepherd's care, he walks with the flock of St. Brigid in learning and loving the way of Christ.

As the members of the community of believers, we offer our prayers and congratulations to Father Jim on his silver anniversary as a priest and wish him many more years of inspired and inspiring leadership. We pray that the sustaining strength of the Spirit continues to guide him.

On behalf of Michigan's Fourth Congressional District, may God continue to lead Father Jim to do His will.

IN HONOR OF SERGEANT MICHAEL EGAN, UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Army Sergeant Michael Egan, who made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of his country on September 19, 2005 at the age of 36. While on patrol near Ramadi, Sergeant Egan's convoy came under ambush

when an improvised explosive device exploded near his vehicle, claiming the lives of Egan and three comrades.

Following a distinguished career with the United States Marine Corps, including service in Operation Desert Storm, Michael Egan retired and returned to civilian life in 1999. He accepted a job with Reliance Electric in the Philadelphia area, where he was known for his tireless work ethic, eagerness to learn, and outgoing personality. In 2003, Michael made the decision to once again serve his country, joining the United States Army as a member of the Pennsylvania National Guard.

Michael leaves behind a loving wife, Maria, and a three-year-old daughter, Samantha. A dedicated family man, he recently relocated his family to Delaware in the interests of his daughter's education.

In closing Mr. Speaker, Michael Egan will be deeply missed by all who knew him. For Michael's heroic service and valiant sacrifice, our country will forever be indebted to him and his family. I join the countless voices in thanking him for his selfless contributions to our Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE DANNY FOUNDATION

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of The Danny Foundation, a non-profit foundation established in 1986 with the mission of providing leadership in keeping babies safe from preventable injuries and deaths associated with unsafe cribs, dangerous children's products, and unsafe sleep environments.

The Danny Foundation's tenacity has been unrelenting, and the accolades the Foundation has received have been unprecedented and well-deserved. The Danny Foundation, often acting alone, prompted and pushed for the establishment of virtually all current government crib manufacturing standards has conducted an untold number of programs and efforts to warn and educate the public about unsafe cribs.

Over the past 19 years, the Foundation has significantly reduced the number of infant injuries and deaths by 84 percent, and can proudly proclaim that the majority of today's new cribs are both safe and reliable.

None of The Danny Foundation's work could have been accomplished without John and Rose Lineweaver. John and Rose, the founders of The Danny Foundation, have dedicated their lives to preventing other families from suffering a needless tragedy similar to the crib accident that eventually took their son Danny's life. Their passion for the well-being of infants across our country is extraordinary and worthy of significant praise and thanks.

It is in that spirit that I ask all my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the accomplishments of The Danny Foundation and the passion of its founders, John and Rose Lineweaver.

HONORING DR. MILDRED L.
ALDRIDGE

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today with a heavy heart, as I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to join me in honoring the life and accomplishments of a remarkable woman, Dr. Mildred L. Aldridge. Dr. Aldridge passed away on Thursday, September 22. I am deeply saddened by this loss, for Mildred and the Aldridge family have been inspirations to many throughout the city of Flint, as well as the county, State and Nation.

It is difficult to imagine my hometown of Flint, MI, without Dr. Mildred Aldridge's influence. Married for 54 years to the late Reverend Dr. Avery Aldridge, she stood at her husband's side, helping found Foss Avenue Baptist Church on December 2, 1956. In addition to her many duties and responsibilities at the church, Mildred served as instructor of the Adult Ladies' Fellowship Class, which in the past 23 years grew from 5 participants to 125. Under her leadership, the class sponsors an Annual Autumn Tea and Music Recital, a drive to collect eyeglasses for needy people in the Caribbean and South Africa, and medical supplies for various missions in Africa. Mildred also operated as coordinator for the Youth and Young Adult retreats, and the New Year's Eve retreat.

Professionally, Mildred was a graduate of the University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University. She received advanced training in administration and curriculum from Michigan State University and received honorary doctorates from Arkansas Baptist College and Selma University. She worked as an elementary school teacher, middle school guidance counselor, and was the principal of Doyle Rider Community School. Later she became director of Eagle's Nest Child Care & Development Center as well as administrative assistant and coordinator for Foss Avenue Baptist Church Enterprises. Mildred was a proud member of the NAACP, Urban League, C.S. Mott Community College Foundation Advisory Board, Visually Impaired Center of Flint Board, Flint Congress of School Administrators, and National Association of Elementary School Principals.

Dr. Aldridge leaves to cherish and carry on her legacy her son, Rev. Derek Aldridge, daughter Karen Aldridge-Eason, and 10 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in offering condolences to the family of Dr. Mildred Aldridge, and in thanking them for sharing her with our community. The greatest tribute we can render to her is to emulate her love, her dedication, her humility, and her Christ-centered strength.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF PEARL SCHENKLER, AN EXEMPLARY CITIZEN

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pearl Schenkler, a rare and special woman on the occasion of her 90th birthday.

Pearl was born in 1915 in New York City to immigrant parents. The second of four daughters in a family that truly lived the American dream, Pearl learned from the example of her parents. Her father, a steelworker, and her mother, a homemaker, unique in their commitment to education, insisted on sending each of their four daughters to college. Inspired by her two younger sisters, Pearl graduated college and became a teacher in the New York Public School System. Pearl spent the first part of her career teaching the second grade in P.S. 221 in Harlem and finished her remarkable career of service not far from my childhood home at P.S. 154 in Queens.

Her commitment to teaching and molding her students was second only to her efforts in raising a strong family. Pearl and her husband Max were married for more than 50 years. He, too, was an educator and together they taught and learned. Their two children, my friends Carole Jacobson and Michael Schenkler, are illustrations of how the important values that weave the fabric of our city have been nurtured by children of immigrant parents and shared with the next generation. Pearl Schenkler gave her children the same meaningful start her parents gave to her.

Carole and Michael and their many cousins, all of whom I have the pleasure of knowing, are part of the wonderful story of our great country. Pearl Schenkler, her parents, her husband, her sisters and brothers-in-law helped to build my home borough of Queens into a beacon of learning and understanding. In 1954, Pearl and Max moved their family from the Bronx to Kew Gardens Hills. Soon, Pearl's parents and eventually all her siblings called that neighborhood their home. The borough of Queens, New York was the beneficiary of the talent, knowledge and kindness the family shared with their neighbors and the greater community.

In one of the great traditions of those before them, Pearl and Max, like so many other New Yorkers, eventually retired to Florida, where Pearl quickly took to working for others and joined the Boca Chapter of B'nai B'rith Women. She became the editor of the Boca Raton Clarion, the organization's newspaper, winning nationwide awards for the best publication from some four hundred chapters of B'nai B'rith. Pearl began spending countless hours helping local children who were sick or in need, as well as helping to fund the construction of a hospital in Israel. She then moved on to become President and led the Boca Raton Chapter for a number of years. Even with all of these selfless responsibilities, Pearl and Max still made time for family. They visited New York often and their kids and grandkids were frequent guests in Boca. During his later years, Pearl spent much of her time caring for Max, her life companion who passed away after a wonderful and fulfilling life at the age of 93.

Mr. Speaker, as Pearl looks back and treasures her memories of 90 wonderful years, she will continue to be flanked by family. On October 8, 2005, her 90th birthday, her children and grandchildren will be with her in Florida to celebrate this momentous occasion.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to please rise and join me in congratulating my friend Pearl Schenkler and sending her our very best wishes for a very happy 90th birthday.

SPEECH OF PAKISTANI PRESIDENT PERVEZ MUSHARRAF TO THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS/ COUNCIL FOR WORLD JEWRY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, just a few days ago, it was my great honor and pleasure to share the dais with President Pervez Musharraf, who is, quite literally, the "Indispensable Man" in Pakistan's politics today—and who promises to be one of the most significant and pivotal figures in Pakistan's history.

In a remarkable demonstration of vision and daring—and at considerable personal and political risk—the Pakistani President addressed the American Jewish Congress and the Council for World Jewry at a dinner in New York City. On that occasion, Mr. Speaker, he emphasized the commonalities among Islam, Judaism, and Christianity, and stressed the importance of working cooperatively to defeat terrorism. He expressed his positive appraisal of Prime Minister Sharon's decision to withdraw Israeli forces from Gaza, and urged cooperation between Israeli and Palestinian leaders with the hope that both sides will "shun confrontation and pursue peace and reconciliation."

Mr. Speaker, the Pakistani President took a very positive step in this direction earlier this month with his support for the unprecedented meeting between the Israeli and Pakistani foreign ministers in Istanbul—an event that we all hope will usher in a new era of cooperation and friendship between these two countries that are of vital importance to the United States. In light of Pakistan's weight and influence in the Islamic world, we also hope and expect that it will be a step toward a process of mutual recognition between Israel and all the Muslim-majority nations of the world. By demonstrating to Israel that its own courageous peace initiatives are both appreciated and reciprocated, President Musharraf has made a most important contribution toward the Middle East peace, for which every person of good will prays.

President Musharraf is a man of vision. When we met in Washington three years ago, I urged him to follow the example of the great modernizer Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the founder of the modern, secular Republic of Turkey, a nation with which President Musharraf is intimately familiar. He has, in fact, blazed a trail that I believe Ataturk himself would admire. At a time when the civilized world is engaged in a global war against Islamic terrorism, President Musharraf has emerged as the quintessential Muslim leader of moderation, decency, reason, and acceptance of pluralism.

Also, Mr. Speaker, President Musharraf's pragmatic and constructive attitude toward resolving Pakistan's differences with India has brought with it the promise of finally bringing an end to more than half a century of animosity.

He has transformed Pakistan into a tried-and-true ally in the war against terrorism, despite two al-Qaeda attempts against his life. He is a beacon to other Muslim states as the model of a moderate and enlightened Islamic leader.

Mr. Speaker, in New York, I told President Musharraf that we in Congress, on both sides of the aisle, deeply appreciate his courage and his role in creating a new Pakistan and a deeper U.S.-Pakistan friendship.

I also want my colleagues in the Congress to have the opportunity to read the excellent address the Pakistani President gave in New York at the American Jewish Congress and the Council for World Jewry. I ask that it be placed in the RECORD, Mr. Speaker, and I urge my colleagues to give it thoughtful attention.

ADDRESS TO THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS

Honorable Mr. Jack Rosen, Excellencies, Distinguished guests.

Let me start by expressing my personal and my nation's grief and condolences over the devastation, loss of lives and human suffering caused by Hurricane Katrina in the south eastern states especially New Orleans.

I thank Mr. Jack Rosen for inviting this distinguished gathering under the auspices of the American Jewish Congress. This is a unique occasion. It signifies an endeavor for mutual understanding in a time of uncertainty and fear. The unfortunate events of recent history have created division and tension between the followers of the three great monotheistic faiths—Islam, Christianity and Judaism. Your invitation card described this event as a historic occasion. For a leader of Pakistan, it is indeed so, and I feel privileged to be speaking to so many members of what is probably the most distinguished and influential community in the United States. I also deeply appreciate that in arranging this event, the American Jewish Congress has invited members of other prominent organizations and associations representing the spectrum of American society.

I always speak my mind candidly. And I always do so with total sincerity. This is what I will do this evening. There is no longer any time for ambivalence or leisurely diplomacy.

The world has entered an era where a number of threats—terrorism, political conflicts, proliferation, poverty—have assumed global and catastrophic dimensions. They have to be resolved urgently and with finality. They cannot be merely managed in the hope that they can be resolved later. We can no longer leave these wounds festering. They pose a great danger to the world at large and our future generations.

Our world today has been transformed, by the revolutions in communications and information technology, into a global village. People move, interact and affect each other. The good or bad in one region transcend geopolitical boundaries and have a global impact. The homily: "the common heritage of mankind" is now a visible reality. We are jointly responsible for the well-being, progress and prosperity of our peoples—indeed of mankind at large. Each people, nation, and religion must live with each other, accommodate each other, and do no harm to each other. Today, truly, we are our "brother's keeper". This is a heavy responsibility—given that our world has great wealth, but also grave poverty; great achievements, but

also grave injustice; unprecedented capacity for progress and prosperity, but also the awesome capability to destroy our planet.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the major monotheistic religions of the world—Judaism, Christianity and Islam share a common heritage and converge on a multiplicity of universal values. Yet, today, our great religions—which should be a source of hope, tolerance and peace—are seen to be pitted against each other. How and why did this happen? Is it possible to reshape the future for the common benefit of humanity—for all of us? These are the questions I would like to address this evening.

On this occasion, it is relevant to recall that Jews and Muslims have more similarities and few divergences in their faith and culture. The oneness of God (which Muslims call Tauheed), is common to both Islam and Judaism. The Muslim greeting, Salam O Alaikum (peace be upon you), is akin to the Jewish greeting, Shalom, which also means peace. When I watched the last scene in the famous movie "Schindler's List", it concludes with a quotation from the Talmud: "Killing one innocent person is like the murder of humanity and saving one innocent person is like saving humanity." The identical words appear in the Holy Quran.

According to the Holy Quran and our Holy Prophet (PBUH) Jews and Christians are the "People of the Book", belonging to the same spiritual tradition. Abraham, Moses and Jesus are among the most revered prophets of Islam. Moses is the prophet who is most frequently referred to in the Holy Quran. Our experiences and histories intertwine in many regions of the old world and most significantly in the Holy Land.

The history of interaction between the Islamic and Jewish communities is rich and long. This includes the shining examples of Jewish communities coexisting in harmony within Islamic societies in Cordova, Baghdad, Istanbul and Bokhara, contributing to a rich mosaic of culture and traditions. Many Jewish historians have referred to the days of Muslim Spain as the "golden period", when Jewish communities flourished intellectually, politically and economically in an environment of religious tolerance and scholarly inspiration.

The subsequent wrath of the Inquisition was suffered jointly by Muslims and Jews. Indeed, over the centuries, Jewish communities and Islamic societies from Central Asia to Spain, have not only lived together and shared prosperity, but also suffered together.

The past six decades are, therefore, an aberration in the long history of Muslim-Jewish cooperation and coexistence. Many learned studies have been written about the reasons for the hostility and violence that has occurred. I do not wish to dwell on this. Each of us has his own understanding and perception. But, it is relevant to recall that the gulf between the Muslim and Jewish communities arose in what was the bloodiest century in human history, marked by world wars, genocide and mass deportations, in which millions perished. It was in this bloody century that the Jewish people suffered their greatest tragedy—the Holocaust—whose commemoration will be on the agenda of this year's session of the United Nations General Assembly. It was also in this brutal century that other peoples suffered their greatest tragedies—Palestinians, Kashmiris, Bosnians, Rwandese. We must not forget; but we must forgive. Suffering often engenders anger; but this must be soon replaced by compassion. And, we have witnessed such compassion from the Jewish community. It was Jewish groups in the US who were in the forefront in opposing the

ethnic cleansing of Muslims in Bosnia. I am told that the largest contributor to the Bosnian cause was the Jewish-American businessman and philanthropist—George Soros. More recently, in the backlash against Muslims, including Pakistani immigrants, after 9/11, they received legal and other assistance from several Jewish groups. I wish to acknowledge and appreciate this.

These noble examples are a source of hope. Hope that we can convert this century into one which will see universal peace, progress and prosperity. This aspiration is achievable but only if we pursue reconciliation and cooperation.

There are a host of challenges we all face in common—political, social and environmental. One of the most pervasive threats we confront is international terrorism. The world today is in the grip of terror. Explosives, car bombs, suicide bombers have all added a new destructive dimension to terrorism. Terrorism threatens to destabilize all modern societies. It is anti-progress. It must be rejected. It cannot be condoned for any reason or cause.

The people of Pakistan have suffered from terrorism. We continue to suffer because of extremism in our region. We are making our contribution to the fight against terrorism. Our efforts have won international appreciation. Pakistan is participating in international action against international terrorism through police and military action, intelligence sharing and measures to curb terrorist financing.

But, I believe, we cannot limit ourselves to fire fighting and local actions against individuals and groups. We should also look for the deeper causes of this malaise and for the motivations that drive individuals to extreme irrational behavior to commit acts of terrorism. The question that arises is: what pushes a human being to such extremes of desperation that he takes his own life to kill others? I have no doubt whatsoever that any attempt to shy away or ignore the root causes of terrorism is shutting ones eyes to reality and is a sure recipe for failure. Military action or use of force against the terrorists today is not, in itself, the ultimate solution to the malaise. It merely buys us time to implement profound policies to eliminate the phenomenon.

A parallel danger lies in fallacious theories and polemical campaigns motivated by prejudice. The postulated clash between civilizations, specifically between Islam and the West, has no basis in history. Civilizations have grown and prospered throughout history, influencing, interacting with and enriching each other. Regrettably, the theory has inspired attempts to turn it into a self-fulfilling prophecy. There are tendencies to associate Islam with terrorism and even suggestions that this great religion of tolerance, compassion and peace, somehow, denies espousal of these universal values. To my mind this is a hate campaign. In today's dynamic world, we need, more than ever before, to foster understanding and harmony among societies. Should we tolerate such campaigns in our midst when we demand their rejection elsewhere? Therefore, I strongly support the endeavor to promote interfaith and interciviliation dialogue and harmony.

However, it is a fact that, today, most of those involved in terrorist acts, as well most of those who suffer the consequences of these acts, are Muslims. Obviously, there is a deep disturbance and malaise within Islamic societies, which has become specially acute in recent years. The reasons are plain to see. Since the end of the Cold War, almost every major festering problem and conflict affects and torments the Islamic world. Palestine has been at the heart of the troubles in the Middle East. In our region, Kashmir has been

the source of tension and conflict. The unfortunate history of Afghanistan spawned extremism and terrorism. Turmoil in Iraq causes great concern in the Islamic world and the rest of the international community. These and other political issues have given rise to a deep sense of anger, desperation and humiliation in the Arab and Muslim populations. It is this political and social environment which breeds terrorism and extremism.

At the same time, I do not shy away from pointing to the failure within the Islamic societies to embrace reform, progress and modernity. The Muslim world emerged from decades of colonization, politically, economically and socially stunted. Political independence did not always lead to good governance. Many of us have remained trapped in a time warp, still struggling to reconstruct our political, social and economic systems to respond to the challenges of our times. In Islamic societies, there is a divide between the outlook of the protagonists of modernity and the custodians of orthodoxy. The resultant economic deprivation and social backwardness are also the source of extremism. And extremism creates a fertile recruiting ground for terrorism.

Ladies and Gentlemen, if we are to succeed against terrorism and end extremism, we must, therefore address the root causes. The leaders of today must change the course of events instead of merely reacting to a series of catastrophic events—such as 9/11 and 7/7.

First of all, I feel we need to clearly understand that terrorism and extremism are two different phenomena. Each requires a different strategy. Lumping terrorism and extremism together, or behaving as if they are synonymous, is a fallacy. Terrorism has to be met head on with all the force required to suppress and eradicate it. In the case of extremism, the battle has to be won in the hearts and minds of people. It cannot be achieved through the use of force. We must adopt separate short term and long-term strategies to address terrorism and extremism. Such immediate and long-term strategies have to be implemented at three tiers: the global level, the Muslim world level and the national level in the concerned countries.

In the immediate context, terrorism, as I said, has to be confronted with force all over the world. Intimate cooperation and coordination of intelligence and squeezing the underworld funding of terrorists and extremists organizations will facilitate counter terrorism operations to a large degree.

At the same time, to ensure success, it is essential, together with the use of force, to promote the resolution of the political disputes, which are exploited by terrorists to justify their criminal actions. Among these political disputes, may I be allowed to say clearly that the Palestinian and Kashmir disputes are ripe for resolution. One can draw satisfaction from the fact that visible signs of movement are appearing towards an end to both these disputes. We ought to put our collective weight behind a push for their final solution. Secondly, for the long term, the socio economic revival of the Muslim world, focusing particularly on education and poverty alleviation, will also erode the core of terrorism and extremism.

I have strongly advocated reform, social and economic progress and rejection of extremism in Islamic societies. In parallel, I have emphasized that the international community, particularly the West, must facilitate the resolution of outstanding problems, in particular the problem of Palestine. I have described this two-pronged approach as Enlightened Moderation. Regardless of the nomenclature, this dual approach responds to the realities of our historical and political

circumstances, which cannot be wished away.

The strategy of Enlightened Moderation, at the global and Muslim world level, will also help to end extremism. Domestically, religious bigotry, hate campaigns and confrontational tendencies have to be curbed. This has to be done through bold, determined, well thought out and indigenously applicable strategies. The misuse of religion to spread militancy, hatred and violence has to be suppressed. An international discourse as well as national debate in affected societies, on religious harmony must be initiated. In the Muslim world, I feel we need to initiate a serious discourse to promote an understanding of the true Islam. We must then project its real essence to the world.

I would like to say with pride that today Pakistan is perhaps the only country which is actively confronting and addressing the issue of terrorism and extremism through well-considered and comprehensive separate strategies. The results are already visible on the ground. We are determined to persist with and sustain this effort until we gain complete ascendancy over the terrorist and extremist segments with our national fabric.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I would be remiss if, while addressing the American Jewish Congress, I did not express my views on the Israeli-Palestinian problem. I do not have an iota of doubt that this lies at the heart of terrorism in the Middle East and beyond. In view of its global impact, it is incumbent on the international community—especially the West and the US—to ensure a peaceful resolution of the dispute. Both parties involved—the Israelis and the Palestinians—must shun confrontation and pursue peace and reconciliation.

Israel rightly desired security. This will remain incomplete until the creation of an independent and viable Palestinian state is assured. Israel must come to terms with geopolitical realities and allow justice to prevail for the Palestinians. The Palestinians' desire for freedom and nationhood is as intense as that of any other people. They want their own independent state.

We see hope in recent events. We have welcomed the Israeli decision to pull out of Gaza. The peace process, as set out in the "Road Map", must be pursued as agreed. We hope Israel will also soon withdraw from the West Bank. This will set the stage for the establishment of the independent state in Palestine. By respecting Palestinian aspirations, Israel will attain its legitimate desire for assured security. I am convinced that peace in Palestine that does justice to both the Israelis and the Palestinians will bring to a close the sad chapter in the history of the Middle East. It will revive the historical ties between Islam and Judaism. It will extinguish the anger and frustration that motivates resort to violence and extremism. What better signal for peace could there be than the opening of embassies in Israel by Islamic countries like Pakistan?

There will remain the difficult "final status" issues to be resolved. None is more sensitive than the fate of the Holy City of Jerusalem (which we call Al-Quds al-Sharif). It is a city that is sacred to Jews, Christians and Muslims. It was the first Qibla of Islam. The first edict of Caliph Omar when he entered Jerusalem, over fourteen centuries ago, was to annul the five hundred years of exile of the Jewish people. He invited them to return and build their homes in the Holy City. For durable peace and harmony between Israelis and Palestinians—indeed between Israel and the Muslim world—it is such a gesture of reconciliation and realism that is required of Israel. Any final settlement should respect the international character of Jerusalem as well as international law and the resolutions of the Security Council.

I have always believed that the courage required to compromise and reconcile is far greater than that required to confront. I appeal to Israel to show that courage. I appeal to the American Jewish Congress, and the entire Jewish Community, to use their considerable influence to put an end to the Palestinian dispute once and for all and to usher in a period of peace and tranquility in the Middle East and perhaps the whole world. Failure is no longer an option.

Ladies and Gentlemen, let me conclude with a word about the prospects of Pakistan's relations with Israel. Pakistan has no direct conflict or dispute with Israel. We pose no threat to Israel's security. We trust that Israel poses no threat to Pakistan's national security. But, our people have a deep sense of sympathy for the Palestinian people and their legitimate aspirations for statehood. In response to the bold step taken by Prime Minister Sharon to withdraw from the Gaza, Pakistan decided to initiate an official contact with Israel. Our Foreign Ministers met in Istanbul through the good offices of our Turkish friends. As the peace process progresses towards the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, we will take further steps towards normalization and cooperation, looking to full diplomatic relations.

Ladies and Gentlemen, we can remain mired in old prejudices and keep the world hostage to the politics of perennially defining and redefining of enemy, or we can move forward with courage and reach out to work for the rebirth of history and a new future of peace, harmony, mutual respect, dignity and shared prosperity. We can lose this opportunity to narrow vision and a failure to see humanity in each other. The responsibility to make the right choice is in our hands.

RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY ON TSA SCREENER CUTS

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing a resolution of inquiry regarding the recent reallocation of Transportation Security Administration airport screeners that is leading to massive cuts in screener workforce levels at Portland International Airport, in my district, and at many other airports across the country. This resolution directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to turn over to Congress all the information in his possession regarding this screener reallocation. Only with this information can our airport authorities ensure that they were treated fairly by this process and can Congress do its oversight job to ensure that our air transportation system is safe, efficient, convenient, and an engine of economic growth for our communities.

TRIBUTE TO DORIS AND IVORY MURPHY

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to two glowing flames that found one another at a

young age, and have had the fortune of sharing their lives for the last 50 years.

Ivory and Doris Murphy are two dear friends of my wife, Emily, and me. Our paths first crossed in Charleston, South Carolina in 1962. That chance meeting blossomed into a 43-year friendship that has grown stronger over time, despite the physical distance that has separated us since 1967. Ivory and Doris are a dynamic couple who serve as an inspiration to everyone whose lives they touch.

Both Doris and Ivory grew up in a rural community near Wallace, North Carolina. They met in 1953, and two years later were married. Ivory enlisted in the Air Force and their life together became an extraordinary adventure, which Doris dropped out of Fayetteville State University to pursue.

Shortly after coming to Charleston (South Carolina) Air Force Base, from Albuquerque, New Mexico, Doris decided to return to Fayetteville State from which she received a degree in education while raising three children, Ivory, Jr., Andrea, and Octavius. Ivory's career took them to Air Force bases around the world in distant places like Greenland, Libya and Thailand.

In 1977, Ivory retired from the Air Force, and the Murphy family settled in Goldsboro, North Carolina. Ivory began a second career with Allstate Insurance Co., and Doris devoted herself to a career in education working her way up from classroom teacher to principal. In 1994 Doris was named "Assistant Principal of the Year" while serving at Spring Creek Elementary School.

Ivory and Doris' strong foundation in family and faith has sustained them through their 50-year marriage. The Murphy's golden anniversary is as much a celebration of the institution of marriage as it is this couple who set the standard for so many around them.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me today in honoring a couple that has persevered throughout a lifetime of joys and adversities. Their dignity, grace and love after 50 years together are an inspiration for all of us.

TRIBUTE TO GENE KREKEL

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, a friend passed away this week.

Who was Gene Krekel and why do we mourn his passing?

The irony in America is there are a lot of lawyer jokes. Actually good lawyers are the most respected people in the community. Gene personifies the best in his profession—the professional who is careful in judgment and caring in concern. His career and his life were characterized by decency and a steadfast commitment to causes.

Gene was a Republican, the Des Moines county Chairman and my campaign leader for many years, but Gene had as many Democratic as Republican friends. His commitment to his chosen party had little to do with partisanship and everything to do with selfless fair play.

American divides between two political teams, each with a great heritage. The mod-

ern-day trend is to accentuate differences, appeal to lowest-common-denominator instincts, and resort to divisive strategies. Gene was an old-fashioned political loyalist who was appalled by such tactics. He believed in principles and values, friendship rather than grudges.

It may have been courtroom training, which while advocacy-oriented, recognized that all sides generally have some justice to their case; it may have been his understanding that there will always be another battle to follow that caused him to eschew the negative. But his approach to work and life were rooted in a deeper instinct as well. Gene was born on a Des Moines County farm and always maintained a rural reserve in a city profession. While temptations to glibness and cynicism abound in our society, Gene was imbued with a genteel Iowa optimism that evoked trust in all with whom he dealt.

It is this trust that caused everyone associated with good causes to seek his leadership. From politics to his church, from bar associations to 4-H, Gene could be counted on for the thoughtful mettle that had earned him Phi Beta Kappa honors in college and order of the coif in law school.

But of all his activities, the one Gene enjoyed the most was the Des Moines county fair, which for many years he chaired. Gene loved, above all, the youth education projects: the showing of cattle and hogs, chickens and sheep, rabbits and gerbels. It was the tie of generations and the nature and history of Iowa's agricultural enterprise that appealed so deeply to him.

None of us can imagine Gene's disappointment not to meet in this life his first grandchild due in just a few weeks. This tragedy is more poignant because Gene and Debbie suffered together one of the gravest of life's tragedies, the death of their son Eric in a car accident eight years ago.

In their close-knit family, nothing could have been sadder than the passing of this freckle faced boy who developed a genius for happiness and friendship.

Now Debbie and Molly are left alone, struck by the loss of the anchor of the family. Their grief is ours also.

This big man with a big hand and bigger heart will be much missed by all who had the good fortune to be touched by his gentleness.

GENERAL WELFARE

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I recently spoke with a young high school student in the wake of the Katrina disaster. He was quite interested in discussing the taxpayers role in absorbing costs of reconstruction and relief in the affected areas. He was so enthusiastic, in fact, that he presented me with a research paper he drafted for his government class. The paper provides some interesting historical insights, and I submit it for the RECORD.

GENERAL WELFARE

(By Zachary Robinson)

THE NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIAN SCHOOL.—The year was 1829, and the setting for a Constitutional test was the nation's capital. A

fire had swept through a large part of Washington D.C. leaving many people homeless and in need of help. As one might expect, many people wanted to help, including the Congress of the United States of America. On the morning after the fire, with compassionate haste, Congress voted twenty thousand dollars of the nation's money to be given to the victims of the fire. One well known congressman in particular voted in approval of this bill; his name was Davy Crockett.

When Crockett returned to his home state, he expected to be greeted with much praise and approval for having extended kindness to those in need with his vote in favor of this bill. However, as he was walking down a small, country road, he instead received a surprising rebuke! He met up with a voter from his state. Asking this man if when the time came to reelect Crockett as a Congressman he would vote for him, the man, whose name was Horatio Bunce, responded to Crockett by telling him that he would most definitely not! His reason, even more shocking to Crockett, was because of the way that Crockett had voted on the bill afore mentioned! A shocked and confused Crockett asked him why he was not happy with his position on this bill. Bunce then reminded him that no power had ever been given to the Congress by the Constitution to spend the public's money for the benefit of a special group of people, no matter how desperate the situation was. Any money spent by Congress had to be spent on something that would benefit the whole country equally and not just a special part of it. Crockett quickly realized that he had been wrong failing in the true application of the Constitution's original intent. He apologized to Bunce and his other constituents for what he had done promising that he would always remember the lesson that Bunce had taught him that day concerning the Congress' power in the spending of the people's money as clearly stated in the Constitution.

After this occurrence, Crockett was faced with another Constitutional decision concerning this same controversial 'general welfare' clause. Congress was to vote again on whether they should give money to a special group. This time it was an individual—a widow of a deceased naval officer. When it came time to vote, Congressman Crockett rose and boldly said the following:

"Mr. Speaker, I have as much sympathy as . . . any man in this House, but . . . Congress has no power to appropriate this money as an act of charity. Every member upon this house floor knows it. We have the right as individuals, to give away as much of our own money as we please in charity; but as members of Congress we have no right to appropriate a dollar of the public money . . . Mr. Speaker, I have said the we have the right to give as much of our own money as we please. I am the poorest man on this floor. I cannot vote for this bill, but I give one week's pay to the object, and if every member of the Congress will do the same, it will amount to more than the bill asks."

The bill was turned down as a result of this and Crockett did give one week of his pay as an act of charity to the widow, but, interestingly enough, not one of the other Congressman did the same! This is an important point for us to understand. When the Congressmen were going to give money to the widow that was not theirs to give, the amount of money to be given was to be large. But when it came to giving out of their own pockets, they could not bring themselves to do it! It seems that it is much easier for people to be generous and compassionate with money that is not theirs than to meet other's needs with their own.

In Article 1, Section 8, paragraph 1, clause 4 of the Constitution of the United States, it

states that Congress has the power to spend money for the "general welfare of the United States." The key word in this statement is the word "general." When the writers included the word "general" in this sentence, they wanted the people to know and understand that Congress was only allowed to spend money that would benefit the people of the United States as a whole equally, not as a special group or just part of its population.

In fact, there is no provision in the Constitution for the use of monies to be given to any special interest groups, states, cities, or citizens. This would be called special welfare and cannot be found anywhere in the Constitution! Obviously, this clause is now violated all of the time as it has been grossly twisted and misinterpreted ever since the Supreme Court, which has no authority to write law, supported this 'special welfare' view of this clause in 1936. Now we pay taxes and Congress uses them to pay for things that do not help everyone equally in our nation but fall instead to special people with special needs. This is wrong and goes against what the founder's original intentions were for the resource of the people's money that they have been entrusted to protect.

Members of Congress need to be reminded of what the Constitution actually says and means so the abuse of this power will not continue and true 'general welfare' can be re-instated! Also, in light of today's recent tragedies, do not think I am advocating for the neglect of those in our country who are truly in need. On the contrary, the much needed special welfare for specific groups and crisis' can and should be encouraged where it has always been best served—at the local individual, town, and/or state levels. Here is where it can most effectively be given and protected meeting the needs where they can be more clearly understood and aided.

May we all become more respectful and responsible with the interpretation of our Constitution concerning our nation's money learning the lesson Davy Crockett learned so long ago. May we also rise to the occasion when it presents itself and dig deep in our own pockets giving what is ours to give when our fellow countrymen are in obvious need. May we recognize this is what makes our country so strong and great! This—our individual liberty and character to do what is right knowing one day it might be ourselves who are in need of a helping hand!

May God bless America!

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LOCAL SUPPORT INITIATIVES CORPORATION

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that tomorrow, Wednesday, September 28, 2005, the Local Initiatives Support Corporation will celebrate its 25th anniversary here in Washington. LISC certainly has a lot to celebrate.

This national organization was born out of the foresight of Mike Sviridoff and the Ford Foundation, with just \$10 million and the goal of identifying 50 to 100 local economic development organizations worthy of support. Even Mr. Sviridoff himself might not have envisioned that, within a quarter of a century, LISC would grow into an organization that has raised more than \$6 billion dollars in grants, loans and equity for more than 1,700 community develop-

ment corporations nationwide. These funds support projects in 38 cities and rural areas in 37 states.

LISC's mission is to help "resident-led, community-based development organizations transform distressed communities and neighborhoods into healthy ones—good places to live, do business, work and raise families." It works toward these ends by providing comprehensive services to the CDCs it serves, from capital to technical expertise, training, and information. In addition, LISC supports the development of local leadership and the creation of affordable housing, commercial development, industrial and community facilities, and jobs. In short, it helps residents build and strengthen their own communities.

LISC is an intermediary for more than 900 corporations and foundations, providing technical and financial resources to help CDCs become fiscally sound institutions capable of carrying out a range of community revitalization activities. LISC's second focus is in improving local community development environments. The strength of the organization lies in its abilities to forge partnerships among local LISC programs, community organizations, foundations, commercial interests, and state and local governments. In addition, LISC branches beyond its local focus by advocating for neighborhood-based development and informing related public policy decisions at the federal level.

I have witnessed the value of LISC's work first hand, as our local branch has revitalized many of the most distressed communities in Toledo, OH. Toledo LISC currently funds one dozen of our community development corporations, and over its 15-year presence has funded nearly two dozen. As of December 31, 2004, contributions from corporations, individuals, small businesses and foundations totaling \$3.6 million had leveraged nearly \$60 million for Toledo CDCs.

As a result of these investments, redevelopment projects have replaced deteriorated homes and buildings with sought-after housing and commercial real estate. One such project was the creation of Toledo's newest subdivision of market-rate single-family homes. Of the ten new homes constructed thus far, nine have already been sold. This development was possible in part because of a pre-development loan from LISC to the Organized Neighbors Yielding eXcellence (ONYX) CDC. Another of LISC's successes is a result of its alliance with the Toledo Warehouse District Association. The Association developed a mixed-use property with 11 lofts and 10 commercial spaces within walking distance of a variety of entertainment venues. This project cost \$2.9 million and included Historic Tax Credits, Lucas County Linked Deposit, a city of Toledo Economic Development Loan, a Congressional special purposes grant, and financing through Fifth Third and Sky Bank. Again, the project was possible because of start-up funds from LISC.

Since welcoming LISC into my neighborhood in 1989, it has been my honor to be associated with an organization so important to both our communities and the nation at large. I congratulate LISC on its past successes and encourage corporations, foundations, and individuals alike to continue to support LISC and its worthy mission of converting blighted neighborhoods into vibrant communities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for the three final votes on Thursday, September 8th, 2005, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall vote No. 462: I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 3668, the "Student Grant Hurricane and Disaster Relief Act."

Rollcall vote No. 463: I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 428, expressing the sincere gratitude of the House of Representatives to the foreign individuals, organizations, and governments that have offered material assistance and other forms of support to those who have been affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Rollcall vote No. 464: I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 427, relating to the terrorist attacks against the United States on September 11, 2001.

RESOLUTION INTRODUCTION
STATEMENT**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation designed to help poor farmers in African nations who are being undercut and devastated by the continued subsidies some of the world's wealthiest countries offer to their own farmers.

Developed world subsidies drive down global prices for farm products. For farmers in wealthy nations, this often involves the amount of profit possible; for African farmers, this involves their very survival. Since more than 70 percent of Africans depend on the agricultural sector for their livelihoods, normalizing global agricultural trade is an issue of life or death for many African farmers who have few, if any, alternatives to farm income.

For every six dollars daily the United States and the nations of the European Union spend on agricultural subsidies in their own nations, we spend one dollar on official aid to developing countries. This means that the positive impact of our aid programs is being undercut by trade-distorting subsidies, which are crushing the very people our aid is intended to help.

Developed countries agreed to negotiate a multilateral end to agricultural subsidies through the World Trade Organization with a target date of January 1st of this year. That deadline was missed, and the current Doha round of WTO trade talks may fail, largely because of the issue of continuing agricultural subsidies. President Bush recently reiterated America's commitment to accelerate the end of all developed world agricultural subsidies.

American cotton subsidies have been said to endanger the welfare of African cotton farmers in several African nations, but European dairy and meat subsidies pose an even broader threat to African farm incomes. When a Japanese cow can produce more daily revenue than even the most industrious African

farmer, something is seriously wrong with the economic order. Curtailing developed world agricultural subsidies will allow Africans to be more self-sufficient. It is estimated that such a change would result in as much as a 45 percent increase in the net agricultural trade by sub-Saharan Africa and a 5.1 percent increase in African farm income.

It is the responsibility of our government, as well as other governments, to address the needs of our farmers, but it should not be done at the expense of low-income African farmers. This resolution, cosponsored by Mr. PAYNE, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. FLAKE and Mr. MEEKS, calls for a multilateral end to agricultural subsidies as quickly as possible and for developed nations to work with African nations to mutually remove remaining impediments to equitable agricultural trade in the global marketplace.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
KAUKAUNA TIMES VILLAGER'S
125TH ANNIVERSARY**HON. MARK GREEN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize before this House the Times-Villager newspaper in celebration of its 125 years in publication.

The first edition of the Kaukauna Times-Villager was published on September 16, 1880 by C.H. Hopkins and L.A. Gates. Despite its humble beginnings, the paper's circulation has grown to include the Villages of Kimberly and Little Chute, helping record their unique history and culture. From the Great Depression to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the Times-Villager has reported some of the most monumental events in our nation's history. But through it all the newspaper has remained true to its Heart-of-the-Valley roots.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Kaukauna Times-Villager for its years of dedicated service to northeastern Wisconsin. And, on behalf of the citizens of Wisconsin's 8th Congressional District, I say congratulations on this incredible accomplishment.

COMMEMORATING THE ACHIEVE-
MENTS OF BISHOP S.C. MADISON**HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the lifetime achievements and contributions of Bishop S.C. Madison and his wife Mrs. Deloris Madison to the United House of Prayer for All People, Augusta, Georgia, and to our country as a whole.

Their efforts show their dedication to bettering their fellow man both spiritually and naturally.

Since Bishop Madison became the leader and spiritual advisor of the United House of Prayer for All People in 1991, he embarked on a nationwide building program that included

the building and dedication of over 130 houses of worship throughout the United States.

Included in that number were four built or completely refurbished in the Greater Augusta Area.

In these sanctuaries, he promotes wholesome values and a decent way of life.

His tenure in the ministry has exceeded fifty-five years, and he has no intentions of stopping! His soul-stirring messages are memorable, and they serve as a constant inspiration to his congregations that if you do the right thing, "Life can be beautiful."

Not only has Bishop Madison endeavored to better the spiritual body of his congregations, but he has also made other thoughtful contributions to the communities where his congregations reside.

Augusta, Georgia has been fortunate to benefit from his commitment to the community.

Continuing the House of Prayer's commitment to affordable housing, Bishop Madison has maintained housing for Augusta residents—The McCollough Townhouse Square Apartments—that were built with no government subsidies.

He has also acquired houses, apartments, and vacant lots in the city of Augusta. After remodeling, refurbishing, or demolishing and rebuilding them, he has made these properties available to the community once again.

Countless families are able to realize the goal of residing in new homes because of his tireless efforts with no help from the government.

Bishop Madison has also made contributions to the Greater Augusta Business Community with the building and renting of the S. C. Madison Building in Downtown Augusta.

Amazingly, his contributions are not just felt in the city of Augusta, but he exhibits that same entrepreneurial spirit in many other cities throughout the United States.

Mrs. Madison, a native of Augusta, Georgia, has mirrored her husband's commitment. She was the catalyst of the "First Lady's Scholastic Achievement Awards," which not only seeks to inspire children to achieve the honor roll status in their local schools but also promotes the fine values of being an upstanding citizen.

This program began in 1995, has grown every year, and is now celebrating its tenth anniversary.

Thousands of young minds have been challenged, cultivated, and motivated because she is willing to dare them to reach higher heights in the classroom.

She constantly encourages children to strive to complete secondary education to make sound economic contributions to our country as well as live the life of a dutiful citizen.

Bishop and Mrs. Madison both have been honored nationwide for their strong commitments not only to the congregations of the United House of Prayer for All People, but also to the city of Augusta.

The contributions they have made to this community are far reaching.

The efforts of Bishop and Mrs. Madison have improved the quality of life of so many, and the people of the Ninth Congressional District of Georgia stand in sincere appreciation for their diligence, dedication, and far-reaching contributions over the years.

TRIBUTE TO MR. HERBERT D.
KATZ

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, Representatives ALCEE L. HASTINGS, KENDRICK B. MEEK, and DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and I rise to recognize Mr. Herbert D. Katz for his dedication as a member of the South Florida Jewish Community for the past 35 years. During this time, Herb has held numerous leadership positions in organizations including AIPAC and the United Jewish Appeal (UJA). Herb has served on AIPAC's National Board of Directors for over 20 years and played a key role in strengthening U.S.-Israeli relations, especially on Capitol Hill. Herb's knowledge, credibility and passion for politics have led him to foster key relationships with a wide-range of elected officials, and we deeply value his activism, patriotism and exemplary public service.

Herb Katz has dedicated his life to enhancing U.S.-Israeli ties and has an extraordinary history of championing Jewish causes at the local, national and global level. He served on the UJA Young Leadership Cabinet in its earliest years. He also served as the president of Jewish Federation of Hollywood in the early 1970s and was the first president of the newly established Jewish Federation of Broward County in 1996. He chaired the Board of Overseers of the Center for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. He also served as president of the National Board of American Friends of Hebrew University, which awarded him an honorary degree. Herb and his wife Ellie have selflessly exemplified the highest form of hesed and have demonstrated exemplary Jewish leadership and pro-Israel political activism, and we hold them both in the utmost regard.

It is therefore with great pleasure that we offer our heartfelt congratulations to Herb for being honored by AIPAC—one of the foremost advocacy organizations in the world.

Herb's commitment and dedication to U.S.-Israeli relations is immeasurable and his leadership continues to be critical to maintaining the unbreakable bond between the two nations. It is our honor to join AIPAC and its members in recognizing Herb. We thank him for his work, and wish him mazel tov and much continued success.

HONORING BARBARA T. BOWMAN
FOR LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO
EDUCATION

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Barbara T. Bowman, who tonight will receive the prestigious Harold W. McGraw, Jr. Prize in Education. Professor Bowman is co-founder and former president of Erikson Institute, and currently serves as chief officer of the Chicago Public Schools' Office of Early Childhood Education.

Along with Professor Bowman, Sharon Lynn Kagan and Ellen Moir are being honored dur-

ing an awards ceremony at the New York Public Library. They have been chosen to receive the prestigious 18th annual award for their work in early childhood education and teacher professional development. They have brought academic innovation, as well as a tireless focus in preparing students and teachers for success.

Professor Bowman is a lifelong proponent of higher education for those who teach and care for young children, and a pioneer in building knowledge and understanding of the issues of access and equity for minority children. She co-founded Erikson Institute in 1966 to educate preschool teachers to work with children from low-income families in the Head Start program. Today, largely because of Bowman's leadership, Erikson's educational programs reach more than 2,500 students and, through them, hundreds of thousands of children.

Professor Bowman and her husband are residents of the Hyde Park Community in Chicago, and they are well known for their community, civic, and political activities. They represent the best of citizenship and what it means to live in a free and democratic society.

I salute Professor Bowman and the other honorees for their outstanding contributions to education. These individuals have dedicated themselves to improving education in this country and their accomplishments continue to make a difference today.

HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE MARK-UP OF
H. RES. 375, H. RES. 408, AND H.
RES. 419

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I want to express my support for H. Res. 375, as well as H. Res. 408 and H. Res. 419, all requesting information from the Administration regarding plans and communication leading up to the war in Iraq, as well as requesting information regarding the leak of CIA Agent Valerie Plame's name to the media. These resolutions highlight a disturbing trend within the Bush Administration to hide critical information from Congress and the American people. The President owes Americans the truth, especially when it involves the lives of our sons and daughters.

Like so many of my colleagues, and so many of my constituents in the 4th District of Minnesota, I was profoundly disturbed when I learned of the so-called Downing Street Memo in May 2005. This document details minutes of a July 2002 meeting between British Prime Minister Tony Blair and his cabinet. The minutes of the meeting indicate that British officials believed President Bush had already decided to pursue war with Iraq. The minutes further appear to indicate that the Bush Administration was intentionally distorting intelligence information to justify the case for invading Iraq.

Concern by Congress and the American people regarding the Downing Street Memo have escalated since first reported. Earlier this year, over ninety Members of the House sent a letter to President Bush requesting a full accounting of these allegations. The President

has yet to respond to this letter. However, the British government has not disputed the authenticity of the Downing Street Memo, and a former senior Bush Administration official has confirmed the accuracy of this account to the press. The failure of the Administration to address these concerns and to adequately investigate the leak of an undercover CIA agent's name to the media is obstructionist. This is a meter of accountability and transparency, and I support all three of these resolutions.

While all Americans stand united in support of our troops, President Bush has offered no plan for success in Iraq. In fact, most Americans now agree that the President's complete mishandling of the war in Iraq has transformed Iraq into a terrorist haven and made our own nation less safe. As a member of the minority party in Congress, I will continue to hold the Bush Administration accountable for the flawed and dangerous policy in Iraq.

H. Res. 375, H. Res. 408, and H. Res. 419 should be favorably reported out of the House International Relations Committee, and the citizens of this country should finally be told the truth by this Administration.

NEXTENERGY CENTER GRAND
OPENING

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize NextEnergy, a non-profit organization in my district of Detroit. It is a leader in the development and research of technologies that will make our nation more energy independent.

On September 29, leaders from Michigan and around the country will celebrate the grand opening of the NextEnergy Center, a state-of-the-art alternative energy innovation center. This is a wonderful day for everyone interested in making sure that Michigan is at the forefront of alternative technologies which will create jobs and ensure energy security with economic growth in the years ahead. As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I have been a supporter of Congressional funding for this effort, and I have no doubt that this federal investment will pay many dividends.

At the beginning of the 20th century, the City of Detroit and the State of Michigan revolutionized personal transportation with the development and production of motor vehicles. The automobile industry became a key part of our state's heritage and way of life.

Now at the dawn of the 21st century, we need to find new ways to power our cars and trucks. We want to develop better systems to improve energy efficiency and reduce air pollution. And we know that there is no better place to lead this new effort than from the heart of the Motor City. We have the knowledge, the talent, the expertise, the creativity, and the drive to get the job done.

With the opening of the NextEnergy Center, another important milestone has been reached. It will showcase a new breed of emerging technologies. From my discussions with the automobile companies and other industry leaders, I know that advanced technologies offer great promise for the future. But

much research and testing is still required before some are commercially viable. That is why the NextEnergy Center is so important and will play a vital role in developing breakthroughs.

By working with the automotive, electric power and defense industries, NextEnergy offers an exciting mix of opportunities. I am pleased that companies from Minnesota, New York, Texas and other states recognize the value of this effort and are signing up to do business.

The commitment to alternative energy innovation will ultimately address the needs of consumers, train a new generation of workers and lay the foundation for technologies in the marketplace. The future is bright for NextEnergy and I am pleased to be a supporter.

**PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 2133, SCHOOL READINESS
ACT OF 2005**

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Chairman, since I have been in Congress, I have been a consistent supporter of Head Start. This program assists over 900,000 children and their families nationwide, including the 1,421 children enrolled in 6 Head Start programs in the Third Congressional District of Kansas. Thanks to this program, children enrolled in Head Start in the district are nearly twice as likely as other low-income children to receive basic medical care and over three times as likely to receive dental care. In the Third Congressional District, 77 percent of Head Start children have received basic primary health care, and 76 percent have a continuous, accessible source of dental care. The program has also provided mental health services to over 150 children in the district and has provided assistance to 200 children with disabilities.

I commend the Education and Workforce Committee for working in a bipartisan manner, by reporting legislation that did not include provisions that prevented similar legislation from being enacted in the 108th Congress. Specifically, the Education and Workforce Committee did not include language permitting faith based organizations to discriminate on the basis of religion, which was part of similar legislation in the 108th Congress.

During the debate on H.R. 2123, the House adopted an amendment offered by Representative JOHN BOEHNER, which permits faith based organizations to make hiring decisions based on a person's religion. I cannot, therefore, vote for H.R. 2123 because it undermines fundamental civil rights protections against employee discrimination for Head Start teachers and volunteers. Since the inception of Head Start, this civil rights protection has allowed for religious organizations to participate in programs, while maintaining constitutional and civil rights standards. I appreciate the important contributions faith based organizations make to the education of thousands of students, through participating in the Head Start program. If the repeal of existing civil rights protections becomes law, then teachers

or parent volunteers could lose their jobs based solely on their religion.

The Head Start program provides essential early childhood education services, and I will continue to support its important work. I cannot, however, vote for this legislation that permits discrimination in hiring.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, due to preparations for Hurricane Rita in my district, I unfortunately missed the following votes on the House floor on Friday, September 22, 2005.

I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been able to vote that day, I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall vote number 488 (Sauder Amendment to H.R. 2123), 489 (Stearns Amendment to H.R. 2123), 491 (Musgrave Amendment to H.R. 2123), 492 (Boehner Amendment to H.R. 2123), and Rollcall vote number 493 (Final Passage of H.R. 2123, School Readiness Act). I strongly support these amendments and the bill because they take important steps to prepare children for success in school.

I also ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been able to vote that day, I would have voted "nay" on Rollcall vote number 490 (Davis (D-IL) Amendment to H.R. 2123).

**TRIBUTE TO THE TEAM OF CIVILIAN
ENGINEERS STATIONED AT
THE COLD WEATHER TEST DE-
TACHMENT, IN LADD, ALASKA**

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the team of civilian engineers stationed at the Cold Weather Test Detachment, in Ladd, Alaska during World War II. I first became aware of the significant contributions of the engineers at Ladd Field through the first hand accounts of my constituent, Mr. Paul J. Burchett.

From 1942 to 1945, Mr. Burchett and his colleagues served at the Cold Weather Test Detachment in Ladd, Alaska. Civilian employees, Mr. Burchett and his colleagues voluntarily worked alongside our servicemen during the war. They endured extreme weather conditions and worked to ensure the safety of our pilots and our planes in the frigid temperatures of Alaska. The contribution that Mr. Burchett and his colleagues made to support the war effort will not be forgotten. Even today, their innovative work is still used for both commercial and military applications.

While at Ladd Field, Mr. Burchett's commanding officer, Colonel R. Stewart, highly praised Mr. Burchett, and his work. In a report to Mr. Burchett's company, Stewart wrote, "As a result of his diligence and interest, Mr. Burchett was most helpful in assisting maintenance personnel of this organization. As a result of his efforts, many of the problems which were experienced were readily overcome, thus averting a serious loss of time. Mr. Burchett was keenly interested in his work, and spent many hours over the normal working day in accomplishing his mission."

After World War II, Mr. Burchett worked as a professor at Pasadena City College for 35 years. While there, he continued to develop after-war designs for experimental aircraft. Mr. Burchett helped develop aircraft for Lockheed from 1937-1959. While working for Lockheed, Mr. Burchett helped develop the first working jet fighter.

Mr. Burchett, now 90 years of age, has led a remarkable life. Until recently his work at Ladd Field was classified. This is why I now wish to recognize that work and commend Mr. Burchett on a lifetime of dedicated service to his nation. He deserves our respect and gratitude.

**HONORING THOMAS HEALY OF
ALPHAPOINTE ASSOCIATION FOR
THE BLIND**

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to pay tribute to Thomas Healy and Alphapointe Association for the Blind, who will retire from the organization September 30, 2005. During his 25 year tenure as President and CEO, Thomas has been the guiding force behind Alphapointe's flourishing as a nonprofit organization in the Greater Kansas City community.

Mr. Healy has been a community leader at Alphapointe for his 34 years with the organization, and as President and CEO helped Alphapointe achieve heights worthy of praise by the organization's founder, Catherine Hale.

To understand how deeply Mr. Healy has touched the Greater Kansas City community, we must all understand what a unique company he has been leading. Founded in 1911 and originally incorporated as the Kansas City Association for the Blind in 1916, Alphapointe was first a group of blind men and women who gathered together for company and recreation. Originally a social organization, Alphapointe has expanded its sense of purpose to provide not only needed social services like rehabilitation and educational services, but also jobs.

Today, the company proudly manufactures over 30 million plastic bottles for pharmaceuticals and over 11 million writing instruments each year. It is not the volume or product of Alphapointe's production that makes it unique; it is the composition of the company's employee base. Over half of the employees, from management to custodial staff, are blind or disabled. Remaining true to its foundation, Alphapointe continues to provide a place of community for all. Under his leadership and guidance, Thomas has helped this vital organization grow from a company of 55 employees to more than 160 earning more than \$20 million per year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues in the House join me in saluting Mr. Thomas Healy and Alphapointe Association for the Blind for their years of dedicated service to the City of Kansas City, Missouri and the surrounding metropolitan community. Thank you Thomas, we will miss seeing you at the helm, but know you will continue to be an advocate and guided voice in our area as a member of Alphapointe's Advisory Board of Directors.